▪ Sunday Biz / B1

Dragon Lady stockbroker is mellowing (just a tad)

▪ Lifestyle / D1

Unconventional moms: Mom is man of the house; singularly single parent, etc.

▪ World / A10

11 dead, 162 hurt in Burma bomb attack, 1st in 40 years

▪ Metro / A23

'Way of Mary' to take pilgrims from Edsa Shrine to Antipolo Cathedral

JOB Market

Proud to be career moms

Mountainside cross marks Phivolcs team crash site

By Anselmo Roque
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CABANATUAN CITY—A wooden cross has been erected on Mt. Namal in Gabaldon, Nueva Ejica, where Dr. Raymundo Punongbayan, former Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology director, and eight others

MOUNTAINSIDE / A8

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Want to call Dinky? Dial 1 for Tagalog, 2 for English . . .

By Cynthia D. Balana

WHAT'S it like to have a conversation with Social Welfare Secretary Dinky Soliman?

Dial the DSWD's trunk

WANT/ A21

PERSONAL TOUCH NGA PERO DI MO MAKAUSAP NG PERSONAL!

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Sunday, May 8, 2005 ★★ 136 pages 20 sections Vol. 19 No. 149 P18

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₱19-M sidewalks for camp

GMA vows to go all out against gov't big spenders

By Christine Gaylican and Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE UNITED Coconut Planters Bank has formed an investigating committee to review its policies and find out if officers of its embattled subsidiary, the Coconut Industry Investment Fund, were enjoying excessive benefits, a UCPB director said yesterday.

"This is what we need to sort out now," Jose Marie 'Joey" Faustino told the INQUIRER . "There are excesses of the past that should be corrected without prejudicing the officers' and employees' compensation and benefits."

In a visit to Cebu, President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday vowed to throw the book at her appointees on the boards of state-owned firms flouting her austerity directive—but hinted she might be flexible with professional managers, lest they return to the private sector.

Ms Arroyo issued the pledge in the wake of a controversy sparked by statements by CIIF president and chief executive officer Rolando Golez that he had enjoyed handsome privileges since assuming control of the sequestered company.

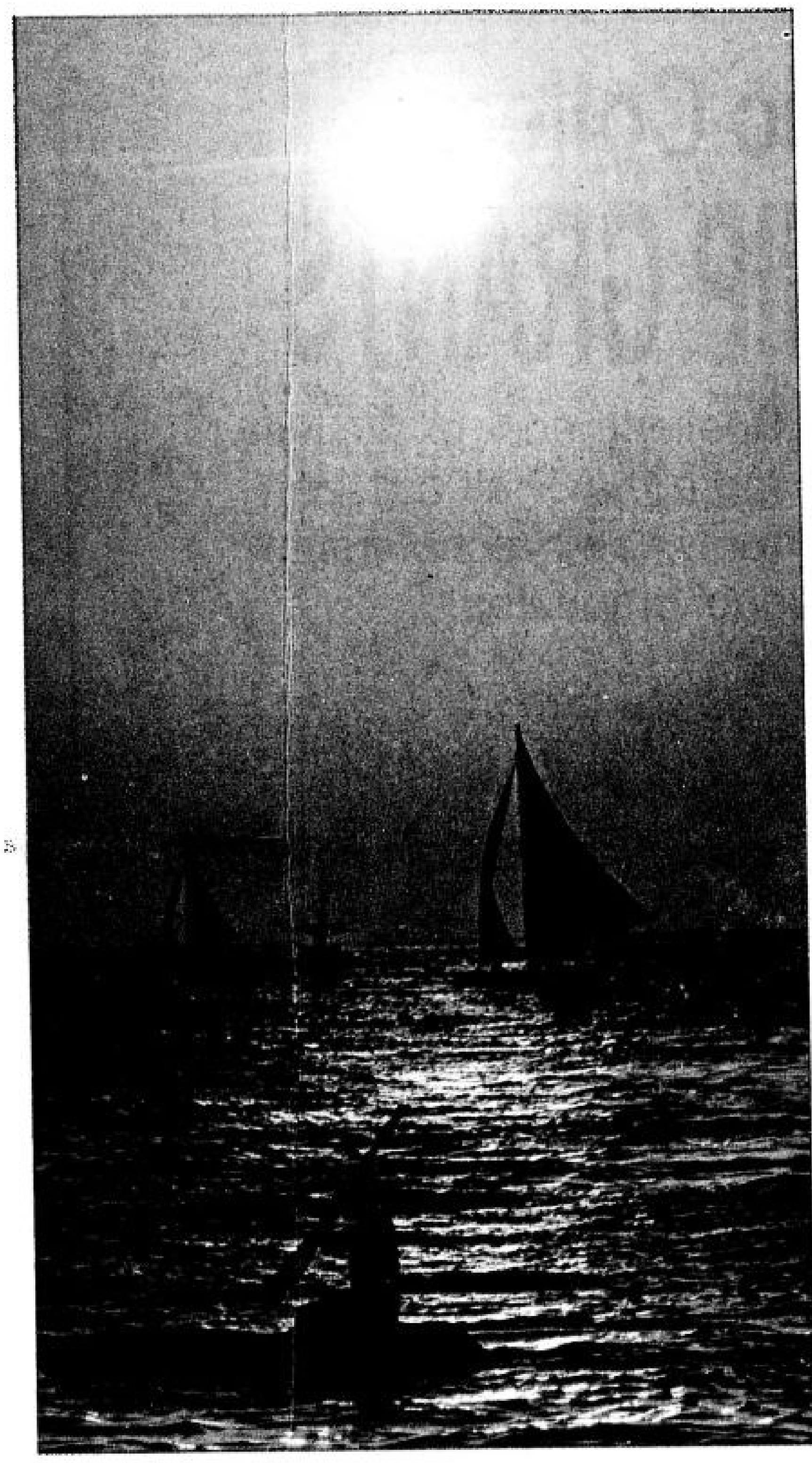
The CIIF acts as the private custodian of some of the P140-billion coconut levy fund drawn from contributions of coconut farmers.

Golez raised an outcry when he said on radio last week that he had received a sport utility vehicle, traveled abroad with his wife using company funds and enjoyed other perks as CIIF head.

Faustino said the UCPB had formed an investigating committee to review company policies which might have given rise to excessive benefits for CIIF officers.

UCPB chair Jose Perez heads the committee composed of board directors Ruben C. Carranza Jr., Rosalinda U. Casiguran, Romeo Royondonan and

GMA/ A21



ERNIE SARMIENTO

THE FUN NEVER SETS IN BORA. But an interlude of calm descends upon this favorite destination of the summering hordes in Boracay whenever the sun departs for the day, and then comes over again wave upon wave of unrelieved fun and games. *(See photo at right.)*

Soldiers grumble over Abu's decorative tiles

By Fe Zamora

A PLAN by Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Efren Abu to replace the sidewalks in Camp Aguinaldo with "decorative paving blocks" has caused grumbling among soldiers and civilian personnel in the camp.

How can he do that when some of the soldiers in combat areas have not even received their rice allowances, a group of enlisted soldiers asked.

"This is unnecessary and extravagant and it shows General Abu's double standard implementation of austerity," a soldier representing the group told the INQUIRER.

"The GHQ [General Headquarters] has not restored the rice allowance to our colleagues in Mindanao, but we have money, it turns out, to beautify the sidewalk," he said.

Documents furnished by the group to the INQUIRER showed that Abu approved the project on April 20, but an initial release of P5 million to fund the project was made as early as Jan. 13.

A detailed breakdown of the expenses prepared by Col. Cyrano Austria, chief of the 51st Engineering Brigade, put the total project cost at P19,792,264.

On April 16, AFP Vice Chief of Staff Admiral Ariston de los Reyes objected to the plan.

"Demolishing the present sidewalks and replacing them with paving blocks for aesthetic purposes may not be in keeping with the times," De los Reyes said in his marginal note on a memo from AFP Deputy Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Edilberto Adan.

"Recommend consider the option repairing buildings instead, say government quarters at Camp Aguinaldo and others," De los Reyes added.

But Abu, in his marginal note on the same letter, overruled De los Reyes, saying that "we have enough funds for the repair of the buildings."

Abu also approved the release of P5,567,235 to the 51st Engineering Brigade, which was tasked to handle the project.

The sidewalks to be repaired run along De Jesus Avenue, starting from the corner of General Capinpin Avenue to General Santos Avenue; and the length of Segundo Avenue, starting from the corner of Gen. Capinpin Avenue to Guido Avenue, at the back of the GHQ building. Demolition of the sidewalks has been ongoing since last month.

In his letter to the Deputy Chief of Logistics on Feb. 7, 2004, Austria said the project was based on the "verbal orders" of Abu to "implement the repair/renovation of side-

P19M SIDEWALKS/ A8

Pacific plan holders walk out of forum

By Alcuin Papa

HOLDERS of educational plans from the troubled Pacific Plans Inc. walked out of a forum organized by the company at the Philippine International Convention Center yesterday, frustrated at the inability of PPI officials to address the one over-riding question: Would their children be able to enroll this school year?

Things became heated when several plan holders stood up to demand an open forum in the midst of a slide presentation explaining why the PPI had to seek court assistance to suspend payments.

PPI, a pre-need company belonging to the Yuchengco Group of Companies, went to court in early April with a plea for relief from paying an estimated P350 million worth of maturing plans.

It said the deregulation of tuition fees had resulted in a liquidity problem for the firm and sought court approval for a reha-

PACIFIC/ A6

JOAN BONDOC

SCHOLAR, teacher, author Purificacion Tomas-Reyes, 95, cherished mother of Angelo and Lito

Things this 'good, Godly' mother taught her sons

By Blanche S. Rivera

"TWO THINGS must never be underestimated in this life. The first is the love of God; the second is the influence of a mother's prayer."

Purificacion Tomas Reyes has marked this favorite quote from the book "Have a Good and Godly Day," the latest on her easy-reading list. Mother to two sons and stepmother to 10 children, she can attest to the rewards of a mother's appeal to God.

At 95, she has seen her sons—Interior Secretary Angelo Reyes and US-based lawyer Lito Reyes—achieve more than what she had hoped for them.

"I am grateful that God has given me life long enough to see them happy and successful in this life. It's the greatest reward for a mother," Reyes told the INQUIRER in an interview at her home in San Juan.

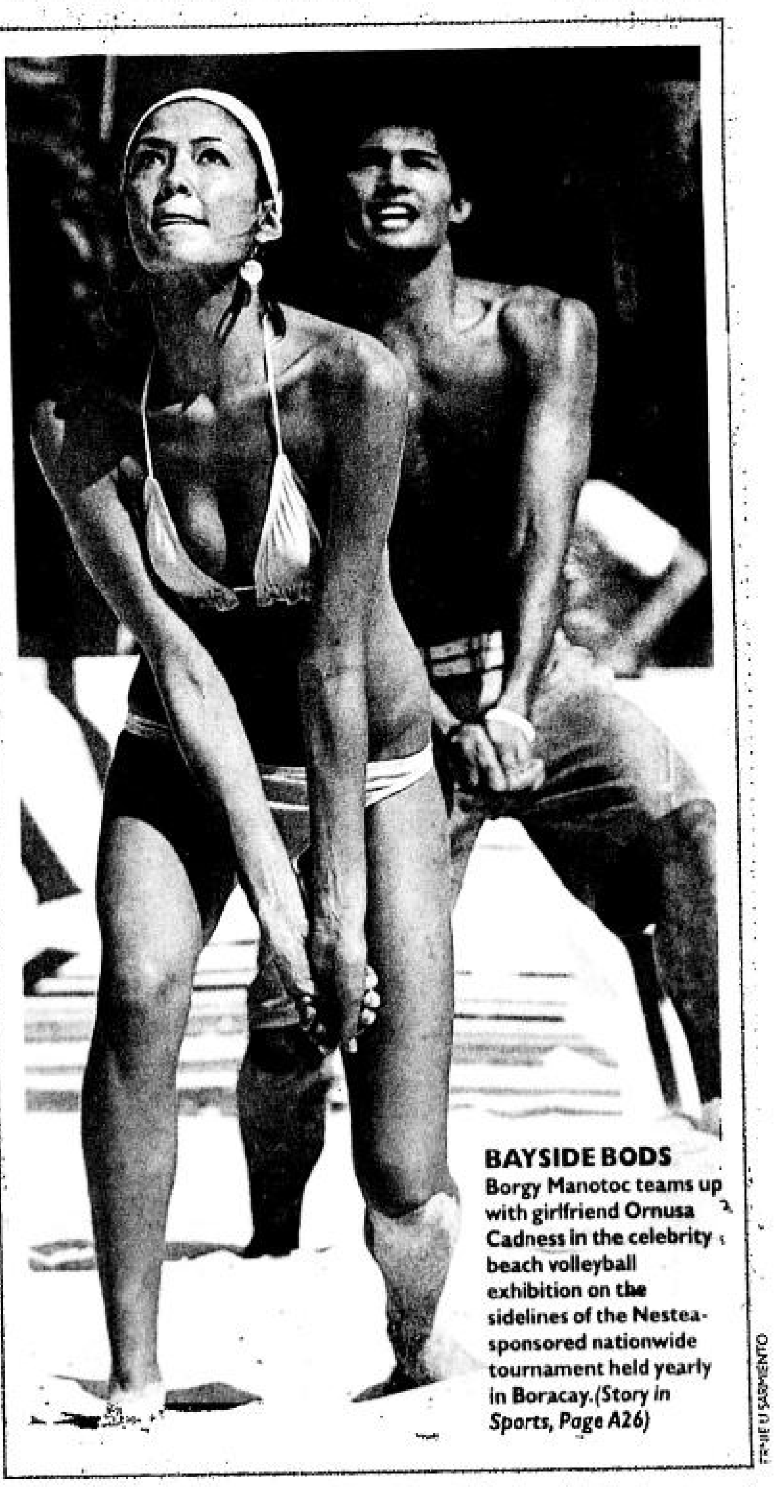
A teacher for 41 years, Reyes speaks flawless English and finds joy in reading. With a sharp mind and eyesight, she still reads books and newspapers, and keeps abreast of the latest news on TV.

On several occasions, this habit had led Reyes to stumble on unfavorable news involving her son Angelo, who was chief of staff of the Armed Forces during President Joseph Estrada's abbreviated term.

She lamented the controversies that often surround people in the government, but said she had never asked her son to quit.

She said she did not even try to influ-

THINGS/ A6



ERNIE U SARMIENTO

BAYSIDE BODS
Borgy Manotoc teams up with girlfriend Ornusa Cadness in the celebrity beach volleyball exhibition on the sidelines of the Nestea-sponsored nationwide tournament held yearly in Boracay. *(Story in Sports, Page A26)*

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Extreme Northern Luzon will have cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers while Visayas and Mindanao including palawan will experience cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms becoming frequent over Eastern Mindanao. The rest of Luzon will be partly cloudy to at times cloudy with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms in the afternoon or evening.

COMPILED BY: CHONA GALANG, PDI RESEARCH/05/08/05 SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Partly Cloudy	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

Second FRONTPAGE

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BIR to monitor 'sin tax' at source

By Michelle V. Remo and Cynthia D. Balana

TO ENSURE that manufacturers of cigarettes and alcohol products are paying the right amounts in excise taxes, the Bureau of Internal Revenue is set to establish a computerized system to be installed in manufacturing plants to strictly monitor their production.

The system, called the Automated Excise Declaration Monitoring System (AEDMS), will electronically record the volume of products being taken out of the cigarette and alcohol plants.

The data to be collected by the AEDMS will be then matched with the tax declarations made by the manufacturing firm to determine its level of tax compliance.

BIR Commissioner Guillermo Parayno Jr. said there was a need for the BIR to develop better, modern and more effective ways of checking on the compliance of companies manufacturing goods subject to excise tax.

"Our system on excise tax is outdated and relies mainly on the ROOPS (Revenue Officers on Premises) recording of inputs and outputs in the different stages of manufacturing from receipt of raw materials up to the packaging of finished products," Parayno said.

"For years and years of doing this, it has not done both the government and the taxpayers any good," he noted.

The excise tax is imposed on so-called sin products or those that have negative social implications.

"The government has had problems with its collection of excise taxes. We need to make inspections to aid in the reforms that we want to institute," BIR Deputy Commissioner Kim Jacinto-Henares said in an interview.

Initially, the BIR will install the electronic monitoring system in the Fortune Tobacco factory, considering that it is one of the country's leading cigarette firms.

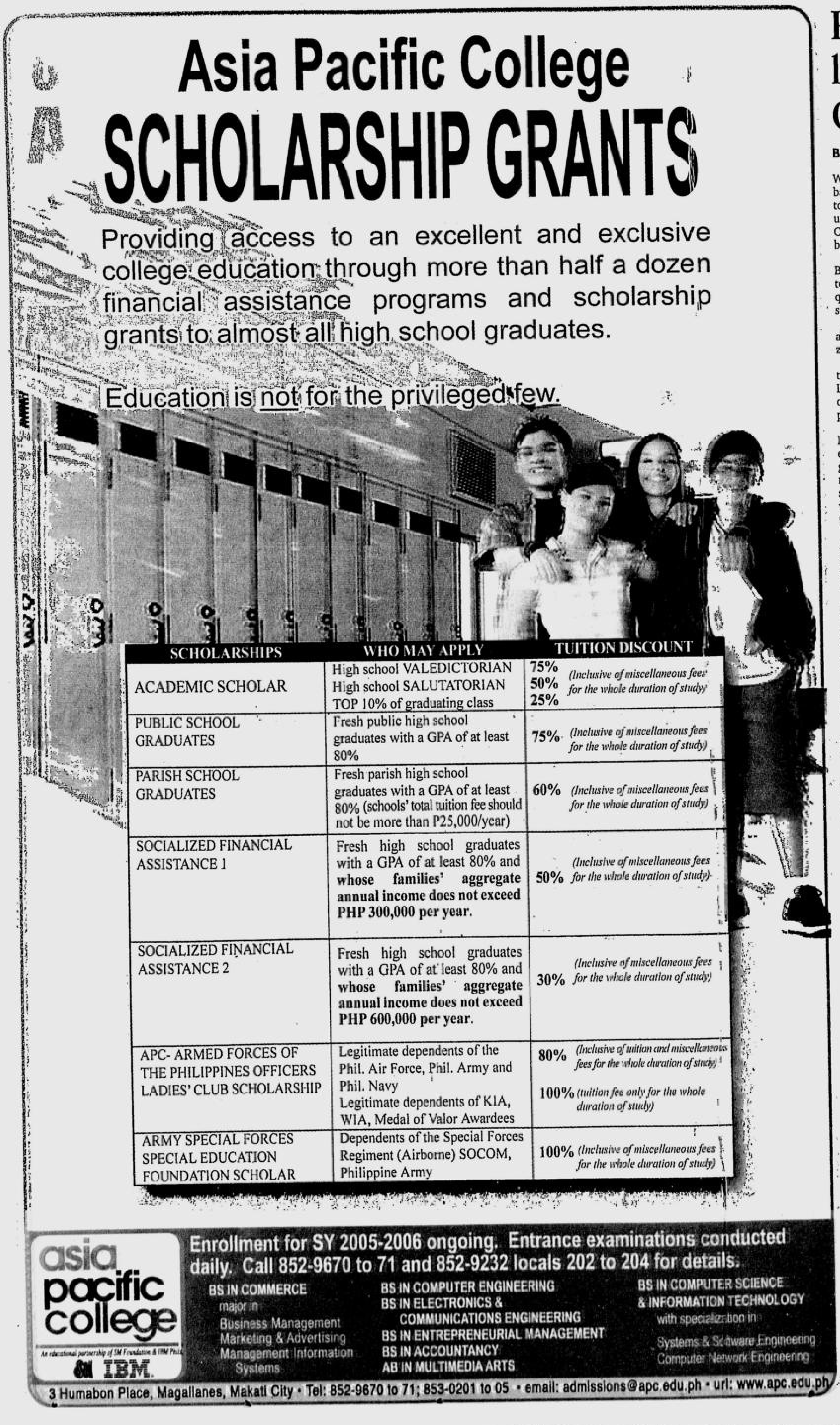
Fortune Tobacco, owned by taipan Lucio Tan, has a pending court case for allegedly evading the payment of excise taxes in the late 1990s.

On Monday, top revenue officials led by Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima visited the cigarette factory in Marikina City. Purisima was accompanied by Parayno and Henares.

Aside from Fortune, the BIR last year visited the plant of San Miguel Corp. in Valenzuela City to determine how to properly install an electronic monitoring system at the country's biggest beer maker.

Purisima and Parayno were met by FTC senior officials led by its president, Gen. Antonio Abaya (ret.), Basic Holdings president Gen. Salvador Mison (ret.), and FTC vice president for special projects Harry Tan. They gave the Department of Finance and BIR officials a tour of the plant and a briefing on the manufacturing process, particularly on systems and processes that could be the focus of control.

Specifically, Parayno wanted to find out why collections from excise taxes did not grow as expected following the passage of Republic Act No. 9334, otherwise known as the Sin Tax Law.



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Protestant leaders back GMA gov't

By Jerome Aning

WHILE some Roman Catholic bishops have backed calls for President Macapagal-Arroyo to step down, their Protestant counterparts under the Philippine Council of Evangelical Churches yesterday said they were standing behind her leadership.

The PCEC, headed by its national director Bishop Efraim Tenedero, exhorted the faithful to leave it to God to deal with Ms Arroyo and quoted biblical passages showing how people should deal with temporal leaders.

They urged Filipinos to pray for the Arroyo administration's success and to be good citizens.

The Protestant leaders recalled evangelical tradition, going back to their founders Martin Luther and John Calvin, which is "to entrust ourselves to God, who installs kings and deposes them (Daniel 2:21)."

"We are not to engage in armed rebellion, or the use of force to get rid of rulers, even if they are wicked or corrupt. The great evil is anarchy and even bad government is better than no government," they said, recalling the disunity of the Israelites when the latter did not yet have kings in the Old Testament.

The council said that those who brand the Arroyo administration as illegitimate should also ask themselves if they think that a civilian-military junta that is being proposed to take over would be legitimate.

The Protestant leaders said that while they respected those who sincerely believe that the Arroyo administration had cheated massively in last year's presidential election, they were "not convinced that their case is proven, and some of us have looked at the evidence."

Even the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines and the National Movement for Free Elections had judged the political exercise as fair and honest, the PCEC said.

That a small minority of Roman Catholic bishops was going against the CBCP was "understandable but not persuasive," it added.

For those citing corruption as a reason to seek the President's ouster, the council said it was easy to accuse others of corruption and pointed out the many aspects of Philippine society was stained with corruption.

'Mother of nation' marks day in Palace

DAANBANTAYAN, Cebu—Mother's Day will strictly be a family day for President Macapagal-Arroyo even as she stressed that as "mother of the nation," the welfare of Filipinos remained on top of her wish list.

The President said she would be spending Mother's Day today by attending Mass and having lunch with her family in Malacañang.

In a media briefing yesterday in this town, 128 km north of Cebu City, Ms Arroyo said she only had one wish as the mother of the nation: For the country to move forward economically.

"My wish is that our nation will be able to overcome successfully this period of pain as we enact our crucial reforms," she said.

The President was referring to her fiscal reform agenda anchored on the expansion of the value-added tax which is having a tough time passing in the bicameral conference committee.

The President's other wish was for the country "to be able to weather successfully the external pressure that comes from the price of oil that has doubled in the last 16 months and almost tripled in the last two years."

Malacañang has been adamant in stating that the surge in oil prices in the world market was out of its hands and that Ms Arroyo's dip in popularity was mainly due to the inflationary impact of higher oil prices.

The President's "mother of the nation" campaign was cooked up two years ago by publicist and publisher Dante Ang as part of the government's strategy to gain the sympathy of supporters of deposed President Joseph Estrada, the self-styled *"ama ng bayan"* or father of the nation. *Jolene R. Bulambot, PDI Visayas Bureau, and Gil C. Cgbacungan Jr.*

Gov't mulls 9-day work cycle to cut energy costs

By Abigail L. Ho

THE GOVERNMENT is set to adopt a new work schedule to conserve energy after the four-day workweek currently in place expires at the end of the month.

The Department of Energy has proposed a nine-day work cycle that will give government employees two Fridays off each month.

Energy Secretary Raphael Lotilla said Friday the plan could succeed the four-day workweek that national government agencies implemented from April to May this year to generate fuel savings.

"We've already floated the idea of the nine-day work cycle to the Department of Budget and Management and the Civil Service Commission. This should be studied closely as an alternative in case the four-day workweek is no longer feasible after the summer months," Lotilla said.

Under the new scheme, Lotilla said that instead of getting all Fridays off with the four-day workweek, government employees, except those in front-line agencies such as the Bureau of Internal Revenue and Bureau of Customs, would be given the dayoff every other Friday.

Similar to the four-day workweek, the 16 hours that government employees would miss due to their two Fridays off would be spread out over the previous nine working days.

Under the four-day workweek, the eight hours being missed during Fridays are spread out from Monday to Thursday.

Lotilla said the impact of the four-day workweek on productivity and efficiency would likewise be studied at the end of the implementation period to determine whether or not this was a good program.

Palace pushes higher power 'lifeline' rates

MALACAÑANG is keen on granting "lifeline rates" to households consuming more than 100 kilowatts per hour (kWh) to help the masses cope with rising electric rates.

"I have instructed Finance Secretary (Cesar) Purisima, and he is supposed to instruct Energy Secretary (Raphael) Lotilla, to expand the coverage of the lifeline rates. In other words, raise the threshold from 100 kilowatt hours to something higher so more of the poor can benefit from these lifeline rates," President Macapagal-Arroyo said in a briefing in Cebu following the laying of a $68.5-million submarine cable for the Cebu-Leyte interconnection project.

The government gives a 50-percent discount to households that consume 50 kWh or less, 35 percent off to consumers of 70 kWh or less, and a 20 percent discount for users of 100 kWh or less.

The President did not indicate what the new lifeline rates would be.

The expansion of the lifeline rate was pushed after the National Power Corp. was allowed to jack up its rates by an average 47.95-centavo per kWh beginning next month.

Malacañang has described the power rate hike as a bitter pill consumers must swallow to end the government's multibillion-peso subsidies to Napocor.

For big power users, the President said the setting up of the wholesale electricity spot market next year in Luzon by the government was on track.

"It's going to help make prices more competitive because the big users can choose from which power plant to buy," she said. *Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.*

Bare all, solon urges Corpus

A LAWMAKER yesterday urged Brig. Gen. Victor Corpus (ret.) to bare all in a congressional inquiry being pushed by party-list groups on the alleged overpricing of jeepney engines needed to comply with the Clean Air Act.

Akbayan Rep. Risa Hontiveros-Baraquel said the allegations raised by Corpus against Environment Secretary Michael Defensor should not be allowed to pass without an investigation.

Hontiveros-Baraquel said the inquiry would seek to identify those who would benefit monetarily from promoting the deal.

"Bare all. The Natural Resources Development Corp. must explain to the public why it had opted to approve the purchase of expensive engines if a cheaper deal could be obtained to comply with the emission standards of the Clean Air Act," she said in a statement.

Corpus was alternate ex-officio chair of NRDC until he resigned after discovering that Defensor had allegedly endorsed the deal.

Hontiveros-Baraquel said that since Defensor cut short a press conference on the request of Corpus, the latter should reveal the details of the Engine Replacement Program.

Corpus, however, could not be reached for comment since Friday.

He had claimed the government was forging an engine replacement deal with ATI and its Italian partner, Iveco, that was four times the actual cost. *Philip Tubeza and Blanche Rivera*

Dreaming of a new car? House? College fund?

BPI Family Savings Bank says

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See Section K pages 1 - 5

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WHO warns on fake drugs' spread

By Christian V. Esguerra

THE WORLD Health Organization Friday sounded the alarm on the rapid spread of counterfeit drugs, appealing for more cooperation among governments to stop the $35-billion a year global trade.

The problem is most serious in the Philippines and in other developing countries which account for about 60 percent of all recorded cases of fake medicines all over the world, Shigeru Omi, WHO Western Pacific director, told a press briefing yesterday.

"We are dealing with a very dangerous situation, and it is getting worse," he said.

WHO officials said bogus drugs victimize mostly people from poor countries because they provide cheap alternatives to expensive medicines.

"For many people in Asia, the medicine we take can make us even more ill. In some cases, the result can be death," said Omi.

The WHO regional office has created an Internet-based Rapid Alert System to help governments track the spread of fake drugs, which are estimated to make up 6 to 10 percent of all medicine on the world market.

"The counterfeit drugs trade is an organized transnational crime," Omi said.

In Southeast Asia alone, about 10 percent of all drugs in the market are fake, Omi said.

In the Mekong region, studies have found that most drugs on sale to treat malaria are fake, he said.

A 2001 study conducted in the Mekong countries showed that more than a third of anti-malarial drug, artesunate, in Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam had no active ingredients, the WHO said.

A subsequent study in 2004 registered a much more alarming figure—99 out of 188 artesunate samples were fake.

"Just this week, I was told that in Africa, counterfeit versions of anti-retrovirals for HIV/AIDS are beginning to appear," Omi said.

The WHO considers a drug fake if it has no active ingredient, the wrong substance, or the correct substance in the wrong quantity. Mis-labelling and tampering with the expiry date of a medicine also make it counterfeit, the WHO says.

Omi said counterfeit drugs can result in prolonged illness or death as well as wasting health-care resources.

Budiono Santoso, WHO regional adviser on pharmaceuticals, said almost all types of medicine are being faked, including the most common antibiotics, painkillers and even multivitamins.

Health and law enforcement experts from the WHO's 37 Western Pacific member states have been meeting in Manila for the past three days to discuss ways to curb the fake drug trade.

Santoso said anyone can make a report on counterfeit medicines by accessing the web.

Omi said the new tracking system will not solve the problem overnight.

"If this Rapid Alert System is a success, other regions will learn from us and, eventually, it will be a global network," he said. *With a Reuters report*

Military court accepts evidence vs Gen. Garcia

A MILITARY court yesterday formally accepted evidence supporting the graft charges filed against former Armed Forces comptroller, Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia (ret.).

"(The) exhibits... are admitted, subject to the appreciation of this court," Col. Caridad Aguilar, a member of the court-martial, declared at the end of the hearing yesterday.

During the two-hour hearing on the 66 documentary exhibits, the court dismissed the objections posed by Garcia's lawyers.

One of his lawyers, Constantino de Jesus, asked the court not to accept 15 documentary exhibits, including Garcia's statements of assets and liabilities (SALs) prior to 2002.

De Jesus argued that Garcia's SALs from 1993 to 2001 were "irrelevant" since the charge sheet only mentioned his SALs in 2002 and 2003.

It was the first time yesterday that a hearing was held on a weekend since the trial began on Nov. 17.

Garcia will present his witnesses on Tuesday. Four initial witnesses have been lined up.

The Trial Judge Advocate wrapped up its case against Garcia after presenting 14 witnesses and 66 documentary exhibits, including records of Garcia's sizable bank accounts, luxury vehicles, SALs and US immigration papers. *Dona Z. Pazzibugan*

Reyes bats for chemical imports

INTERIOR Secretary Angelo T. Reyes said he would ask the Bureau of Customs to ease restrictions on the importation of chemicals that cannot be used directly for making explosives following complaints by legitimate chemical importers.

As mandated by the National Anti-Terrorism Task Force, the BOC has been requiring clearances for the importation of 251 chemical substances, not all of which may be used directly as ingredients to manufacture explosives.

Difficulty

As a result, Filipino chemical importers and traders said they were having difficulty processing their import documents. This prompted them to seek the help of the Department of Interior and Local Government.

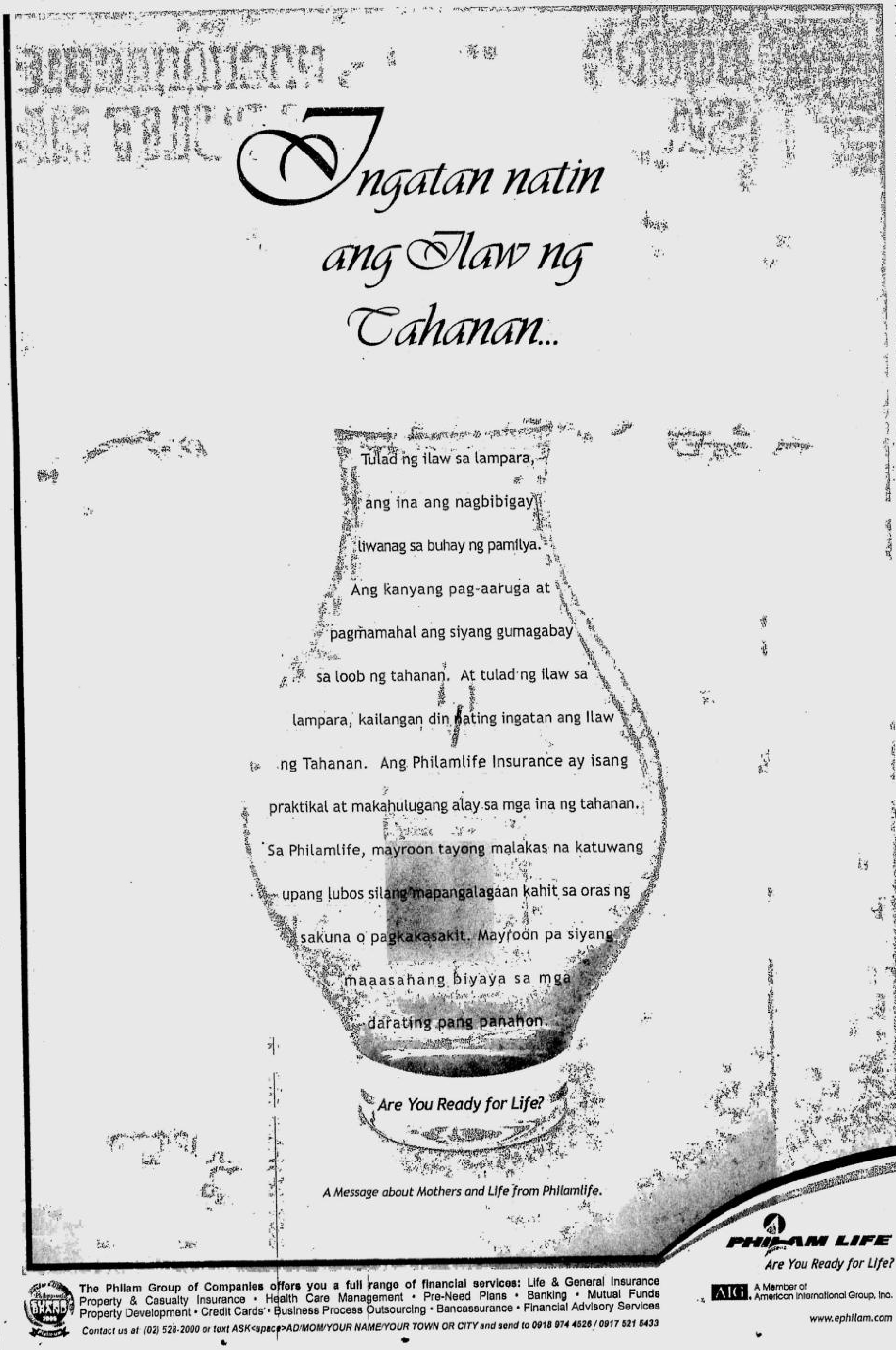
Reyes assured the chemical importers that he would ask the BOC to require importers to produce the necessary police permits only for the importation of substances that could be used directly for making explosives.

Ask Lina

In a meeting with some of the country's top chemical importers and traders last week, Reyes said he would write Customs Commissioner Alberto D. Lina to ask that only chemicals listed under Executive Order No. 522 would need a permit from the Philippine National Police Firearms and Explosives Office prior to importation and the release of shipment.

Reyes has proposed the creation of the Explosives Testing and Classification Board, a multi-sectoral panel that would draft a list, conduct actual testing and properly classify chemical substances which may be used directly for making explosives.

To be created in the next two weeks, Reyes said the ETCB would be tasked to come up with the proper classification of chemical substances within one month.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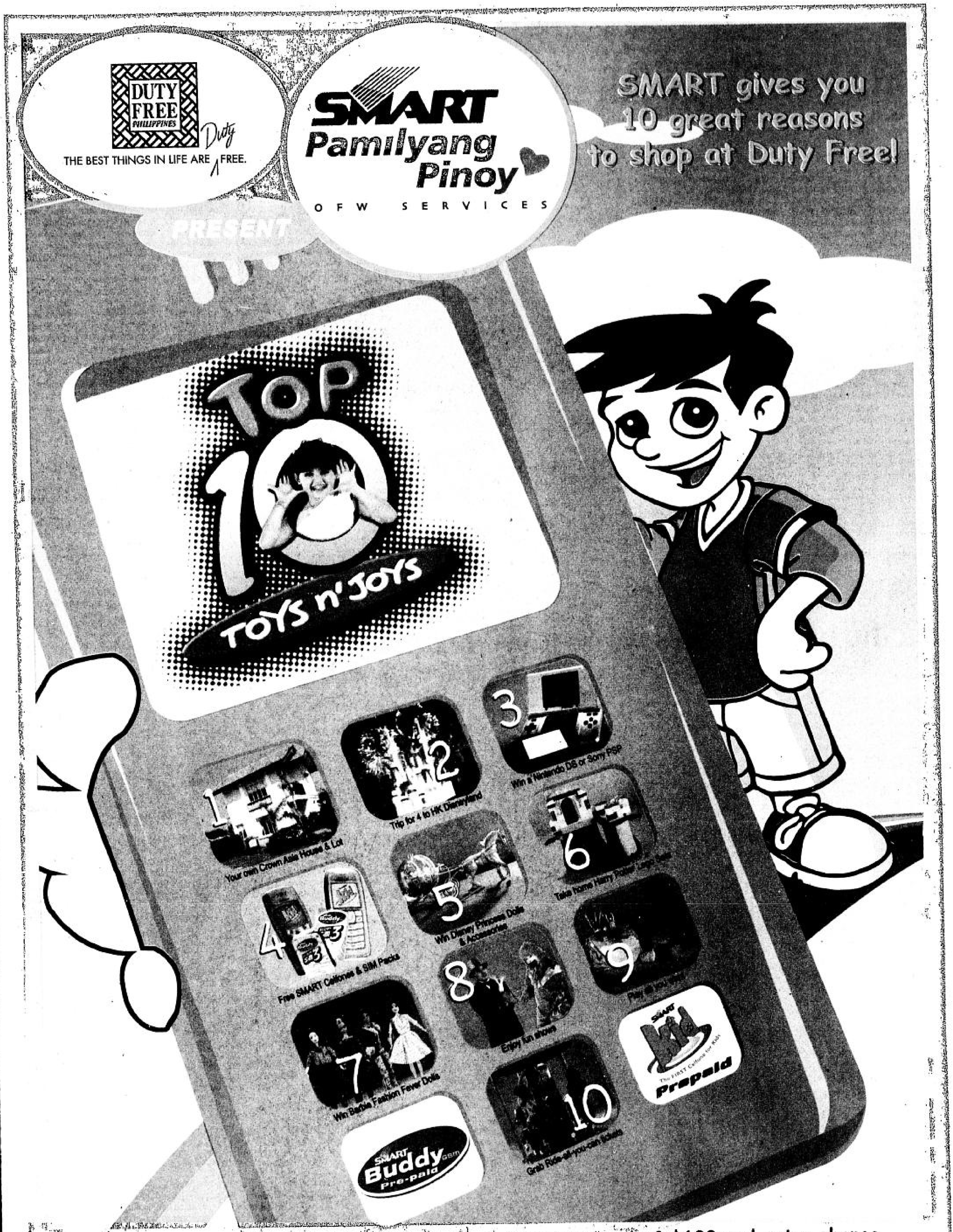
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Things this 'good, Godly' mother taught her sons

From page A1

ence her children's dreams when they were young.

When Angelo wanted to go to the Philippine Military Academy and join the Army, she was supportive, although nervous. When Lito decided to raise his family in the United States, again she asked God to guide him.

"Nothing can equal your prayers for your children. Sometimes, there's really nothing else you can do for them but to pray," Reyes says.

The interior secretary, who is still awaiting confirmation by the Commission on Appointments, is equally protective of his mother.

At an October 2004 hearing of the House committees on national defense and banks on alleged corruption in the military, Reyes was asked at one point about his reported huge assets.

He said that most of his property had come from his inheritance, and that he had some P4 million in a bank account jointly held by his mother and himself.

Asked by Ilocos Norte Rep. Imee Marcos to provide records of his mother's finances, he said: "Your honor, you leave my mother alone. You leave my family alone."

When the heart says yes

Reyes did not think she would have children of her own. She married Pablo, her former principal, when she was 30 and he, a 42-year-old widower with 10 children.

"When the heart says yes, you learn to accept everything" was Reyes' simple explanation for marrying a widower.

By her account, it was a blissful marriage. They lived apart from Pablo's children, although the kids were very friendly toward their stepmother.

They also had two daughters, who both died in infancy. It was Lito and Angelo whom they raised through the difficult war years.

In 1955, Reyes, along with three other Filipino teachers, was sent to the University of Michigan on a Fulbright scholarship.

She had to stay in the United States for a whole year to learn how to teach English as a second language. Pablo was left in the Philippines to tend to their two teenagers.

"I was crying," Reyes recalled. "I almost did not go but Pablo said it was a good opportunity for me, so I went."

Reyes said she frequently received letters from her sons, and often corrected their grammar when she wrote them back. It was the best she could do to teach them from a distance.

Random thoughts

She gave a piece of advice for this generation's working mothers: "If there's an opportunity to teach your children, do so. Teach, and do not just give them advice if there is an occasion."

SALUTE to 'mamang.' The Reyes boys Lito (extreme left) and Angelo (extreme right) growing up mentored by mom Purificacion and father Pablo.

Reyes loved to write. Until recently, she jotted down random thoughts and composed letters to her children.

Some of her letters and jottings, along with pictures chronicling her life, were compiled in a booklet produced by her sons for her 95th birthday last March 6.

"When I have thoughts that I can't tell anyone, I write them down on a piece of paper. I just discovered lately that I had a lot of random thoughts. There were a lot of papers," Reyes said, amused.

In a letter she wrote to Angelo on July 9, 1969, shortly after her husband's death, she said:

"It has been our fervent hope, your father's and mine, that someday, you will attain your cherished dream—a successful life... And when that day comes and I am not around, don't forget your brother Lito. Love him and help him when he is in need. Nothing will make me happier."

On another occasion in September 1984, she had this thought:

"Time is a great healer. Through the years, the burning flame has subsided into embers that glow bright every time they are fanned by the winds of poignant memories. We learn to live with our hurt and try to make the most of what is with us. Life must go on."

Moving on

For Reyes, who lost her mother when she was six, and never found her father's body after he was declared a civilian casualty of an American air raid in 1945, the need to move on built her character.

The youngest of three sisters, she said she strove to learn from her siblings, who were also teachers. In college, she would walk from their home in Singalong, Manila, to the University of the Philippines on Padre Faura.

Immediately after graduation in 1932, she taught in public schools in Samar, Pampanga, Pasig and Manila until her retirement in 1973 as English supervisor of the Division of City Schools-Manila.

"From the start I knew I had to work hard for my old age. It was frugal living for me, no extravagance," she said.

Even now, Reyes delights in the simple things—spending an afternoon on Roxas Boulevard, window-shopping in Market! Market! with her grandchildren, dinner at Shabu! Shabu! and watching *telenovelas*.

"I enjoyed motherhood," she said. "It was not difficult to raise my two sons. They had a father who was very good to them."

Sustained and soothed

Today, Reyes hopes to spend another Mother's Day with Angelo and his family, and Lito who flew in from Oregon in March for her birthday.

Reyes said she wished to live her remaining years according to the closing lines of "Thanatopsis," a poem by William Cullen Bryant.

She loved to teach the poem to her students, and she can still recite it from memory:

"So live, that when thy summons comes to join/The innumerable caravan, which moves/To that mysterious realm, where each shall take/His chamber in the silent halls of death,/Thou go not, like the quarry-slave at night,/Scourged to his dungeon, but, sustained and soothed/By an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave/ Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch/About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

Pacific plan holders walk out of forum

From page A1

bilitation plan.

The plan holders said they wanted an open forum to hear the explanations of officials on why the company would be unable to pay the tuition of their children this year.

"I thought this was supposed to be an open forum. We want to talk to officials of the company," said Simeon Marfori II, who had flown all the way from Davao.

Marfori, vice president of the Davao City Chamber of Industry, said he was handed a program of yesterday's event and it did not provide for an open forum.

PPI officials said they would be distributing a questionnaire and survey sheet for the plan holders to note down their complaints.

"What I am hearing is propaganda and a lot of b.s. We want straight answers. They should open this for questions because we are willing to listen and maybe even compromise," Marfori told reporters.

Other plan holders began demanding with raised voices what the company intended to do about their children's tuition payments.

"I have heard these before. What I'd like to hear is what the company will do for plan holders like me," said Jon Santamaria, who has seven plans for his four kids.

"What we want is answers to our questions like when and how we are going to be paid. Our needs are immediate and we need answers," said Catalina Cruz, who has 10 PPI plans.

Philip Piccio, spokesperson for the Parents Enabling Parents Coalition (PEP Coalition), also stood up and demanded an open forum. The PEP Coalition is a lobby group that the PPI plan holders have organized.

A PPI official, Roy Padiernos, took the microphone and engaged Piccio in a virtual shouting match. Padiernos asked Piccio "not to shout."

Piccio retorted: "You have the mike, I don't. I have to shout so you can hear me."

It was at this point that Padiernos said the plan holders were not invited to the forum. With that, the plan holders stood up and walked out.

PPI spokesperson Jeanette Tecson said the plan holders were not invited to the forum.

"This event was supposedly for Pacific Plan employees and other employees of the Yuchengco Group of Companies. Unfortunately, some people disrupted the proceedings," she said, adding that the company would be scheduling another forum for the plan holders.

Piccio pointed to a sign at the PICC entrance that read: "Welcome Pacific Plan holders."

"I saw the sign and I am a plan holder, so I went in," he said.

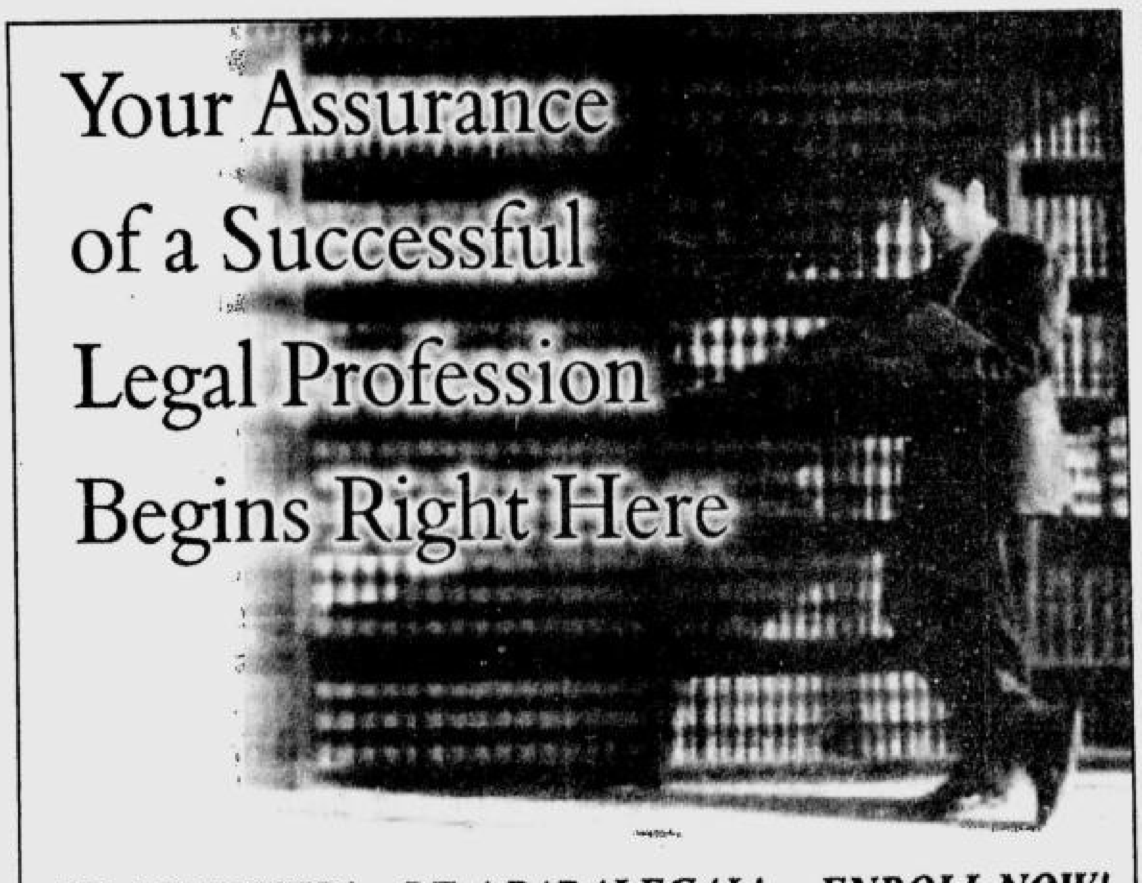
Piccio was also seen chatting amiably with Padiernos and Tecson before the forum began.

Inside the PICC, there was also a banner saying the event was a "Plan Holders Forum."

About 200 people attended the forum, divided almost equally between plan holders and agents and employees of PPI.

"I am a plan holder and creditor of the company. And I have every right to ask questions. We need answers. All I want to know is when and how they will pay us," Piccio said.

Aside from the thousands of plan holders left "feeling cheated" by PPI's inability to meet tuition obligations this year and for some years to come, the PPI rehabilitation plan became more controversial when it was found that before it applied for relief, the company had put up a subsidiary, Lifetime Plans Inc., and transferred most of the PPI's assets to it.



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THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, May 8, 2005
Ascension Sunday / Mother's Day

1st Reading: **Acts 1:1-11**

Why are you looking into the sky?

In the first part of my work, Theophilus, I wrote of all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he ascended to heaven.

But first he had instructed through the Holy Spirit the apostles he had chosen. After his passion, he presented himself to them, giving many signs that he was alive; over a period of forty days he appeared to them and taught them concerning the kingdom of God. Once when he had been eating with them, he told them, "Do not leave Jerusalem but wait for the fulfillment of the Father's promise about which I have spoken to you: John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit within a few days."

When they had come together, they asked him, "Is it now that you will restore the Kingdom of Israel?" And he answered, "It is not for you to know the time and the steps which the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, even to the ends of the earth."

After Jesus said this, he was taken up before their eyes and a cloud hid him from their sight. While they were still looking up to heaven where he went, suddenly, two men dressed in white stood beside them and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand here looking up at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken from you into heaven, will return in the same way as you have seen him go there."

2nd Reading: **Ephesians 1:17-23**

The glorious Christ is the head of the Church

Brothers and sisters, may the God of Christ Jesus our Lord, the Father of Glory, reveal himself to you and give you a spirit of wisdom, that you may know him.

May he enlighten your inner vision, that you may appreciate the things we hope for, since we were called by God.

May you know how great is the inheritance, the glory, God sets apart for his saints; may you understand with what extraordinary power he acts in favor of us who believe.

He revealed his almighty power in Christ when he raised him from the dead and had him sit at his right hand in heaven, far above all rule, power, authority, dominion, or any other supernatural force that could be named, not only in this world but in the world to come as well.

Thus has God put all things under the feet of Christ and set him above all things, as head of the Church which is his body. He who fills all in all unfolds his fullness in the Church.

Gospel: **Matthew 28:16-20**

Jesus leaves us a mission

As for the Eleven disciples, they went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw Jesus, they bowed before him, although some doubted.

Then Jesus approached them and said, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Go, therefore, and make disciples from all nations. Baptize them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to fulfill all that I have commanded you. I am with you always until the end of this world."

Commentary

Jesus departs from the earth, drawing his disciples to the mountain where he commissions them to go out into the whole world, make disciples, baptize in the name of the Father, the Son and the Spirit (the first time the Trinity is clearly mentioned in the gospel) and to teach all that he has commanded us to do. We are to make disciples by example and to pray and become one in the Trinity. The community was sent to wait, as he left them, to send them the gift of the Spirit that would bind them together in him, teaching them and preparing them to go boldly into the world, as the Father had sent him into the world, to us. They are found waiting together, praying for the power that will come from on high, come from God. They are waiting to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. We wait, again as church, as communities and believers for the Spirit to be given once again so that the power of God may move out into the world again, in us.

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DOJ rules Enrile case vs priest may proceed

By Armand N. Nocum

THE DEPARTMENT of Justice Friday found "probable cause" to proceed with the libel case filed against Fr. Robert Reyes by Cagayan Rep. Jackie Enrile for saying on television that the latter and his father, Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, were responsible for the death of his nephew.

In a six-page resolution signed by Justice Undersecretary Ernesto Pineda, the DOJ said Reyes' freedom of speech and expression "is not absolute for it cannot be exercised at the expense and honor and reputation of the complainant" Jackie Enrile.

But Reyes, in a telephone interview, cried harassment and blamed Malacañang for resurrecting the five-year-old case DOJ prosecutors had practically ignored.

He said the "timing" of the release of the DOJ resolution was "uncanny."

"They are pursuing clerics critical of the government," Reyes said, referring to the announced plan of Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez to charge Bishop Emeritus Julio Labayen of Infanta, Quezon; Bishop Diogracia Iniquez of Caloocan City and Bishop Antonio Tobias of Novaliches City for linking the First Family to jueteng.

Dubbed the "running priest" for his penchant for running in support of various causes, Reyes is no stranger to controversy.

The case against him grew out of a Nov. 29, 2000, television show in which he accused the two Enriles of killing his nephew, Ernest Robert Lucas, during martial law.

In the "Extra Extra" television show hosted by Paulo Bediones over GMA 7, Reyes said the killing spurred him to fight for justice.

The younger Enrile, who was watching the show, sued Reyes and Bediones for libel, describing the accusation as "absolutely false" and made with "actual malice."

In his defense, Reyes said the statement was not libelous but was made "in the context of [showing] how the sociopolitical milieu existing [during] martial law had instilled fear in people."

For his part, Bediones said he was only "reporting" a statement made by Reyes.

The Quezon City prosecutor who was handling the case then agreed with Bediones and dropped him from the complaint. The prosecutor, however, said there was probable to charge Reyes with libel.

Reyes, through his lawyer, filed a petition for review of the resolution.

The DOJ denied Reyes' petition, noting that "during the preliminary investigation, (Reyes) admitted that no case for murder was ever filed against (the Enriles)."

He said he was only quoting newspaper reports tagging the Enriles as the killers of his nephew.

Air fares to rise tomorrow

LOCAL air carriers will be increasing their fares tomorrow due to higher jet fuel prices that comprise about 40 percent of their costs.

Budget carrier Air Philippines Corp. received the go-ahead from the Civil Aeronautics Board on Wednesday to collect a higher fuel surcharge.

Philippine Airlines and low-cost carrier Cebu Air Pacific, which both got the CAB's blessing in the last week of April, agreed to wait for Air Philippines' approval before implementing the new fuel surcharge.

Local airlines will be collecting an additional fuel surcharge of as much as P250 on one-way local flights and up to $8 for one-way overseas flights.

"The fuel surcharge being imposed by the carriers is significantly lower than the actual cost of the fuel increase per passenger. This is because the airlines need to remain competitive in both domestic and international markets," CAB executive director Tomas Mañalac said last week.

Mañalac said the approval was valid from three to six months, after which the airlines would have to submit the fuel surcharges to the CAB for review.

The local carriers cited the increasing price of aviation fuel in their separate petitions. Jet fuel per barrel now costs more than $70 against the average $55 per barrel cost when air fares were last adjusted in November 2004.

The CAB allowed PAL to collect an additional $8 fuel surcharge on one-way trips to the United States, Canada and Australia, and an additional $3 on one-way flights to the Middle East and other destinations.

The flag carrier currently collects a fuel surcharge of $14 on trips to the US, Canada and Australia, $13 on trips to the Middle East, and $11 on all other foreign destinations.

Clarissa S. Batino

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ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

Militants to GMA: Look at family first

DISPLAYS of extravagance or ostentation by high people in government have rankled various sectors, especially those representing militant groups.

Training his guns on Malacañang, Anakpawis party-list Rep. Rafael Mariano said President Macapagal-Arroyo should first remind members of her First Family to shun public displays of wealth before ordering government officials to stop lavish spending.

"Look at yourself and direct your orders to stop all lavish spending at your immediate family," Mariano said.

"It is the height of hypocrisy for Ms Arroyo to call for a stop to lavishness [by] officials while her own First Family stinks with top level extravagance."

Mariano added: "If she is serious about it, any inquiry on officials' lavishness and extravagance must start with her own husband and extend to a reexamination of her own programs that involve huge appropriations of public funds with dubious benefit to the public."

He said the President should be alarmed over the recent resignations of some government officials because of issues involving the spending of public funds.

He specifically cited former Philippine Coconut Authority administrator Evangeline Valbuena, former Presidential Commission on Good Government chair Haydee Yorac and retired Gen. Victor Corpus, formerly with the Natural Resources Development Board. *With a report from Philip C. Tubeza*

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P19-M sidewalks ...

From page A1

walks using decorative paving blocks and renovation of existing covered shade to make the CGEA (Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo) more presentable, and implement it by phase if the available funds are not enough for the said projects."

Austria gave a detailed estimate of the project.

According to him, the renovation of the sidewalks would cost P6,241,264, while replacement/construction of covered shade would cost P13,551,000, for a total of P19,792,264.

Austria noted that an intial P5 million had been released, and he was seeking approval of the P14,792,264 balance.

But the enlisted men who brought the project to the attention of the INQUIRER said there was no need to renovate the sidewalks or the covered walkway because "they are still okay."

An enlisted man who represented the grumbling soldiers from a unit in Camp Aguinaldo said Abu—who issued a memo on austerity measures in February—should be the first to follow his memo.

In the memo of Feb. 25, 2005, Abu ordered the strict implementation of "energy conservation measures," including turning off all lights and air conditioning units by 5 p.m.

Abu also banned soldiers from spending the night in their offices, except during times when a security alert was in effect or when there was prior permission to work overtime for official functions.

In his memo, Abu said using electricity beyond office hours was a "malpractice" with "adverse effects on the financial resources and even the overall fiscal management of the AFP's resources."

Electricity, water bills

"Instead of having enough resources to support our operations, we give up part of our limited funds to pay our electricity and even water bills," the memo said.

The memo showed Abu's application of a double standard, the soldier said.

"He has imposed austerity measures on us, but he has imposed a different standard for himself," the enlisted man said.

He said that Abu—who is due to retire on June 24—had renovated the quarters and office of the AFP chief of staff, "even if there was nothing wrong with it."

Abu took over as AFP chief of staff on Oct. 29, 2004, replacing Gen. Narciso Abaya.

Mountainside cross marks Phivolcs team crash site

From page A1

died in a helicopter crash on April 28.

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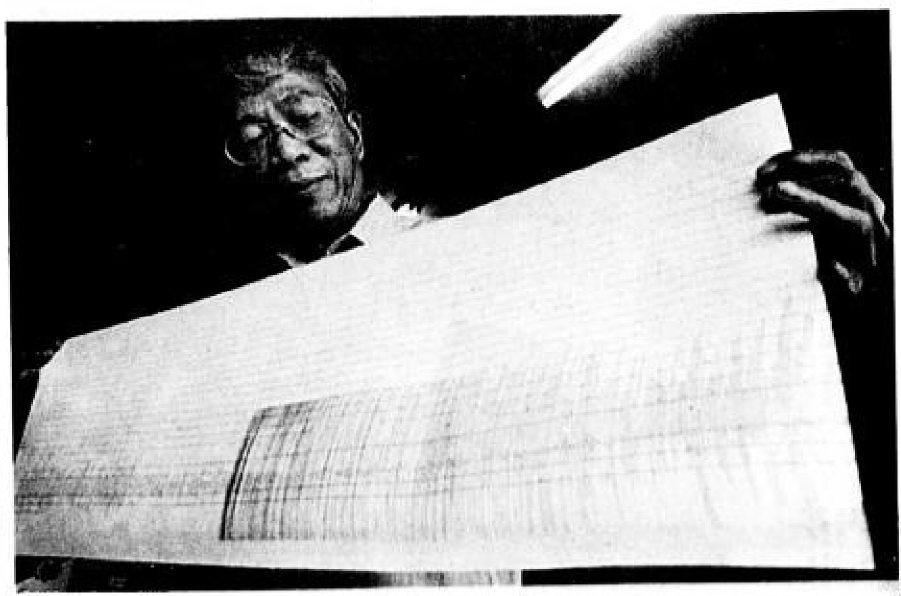

THE ICONIC PUNONGBAYAN in action

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DON'T FENCE ME IN. For as long as it has been there, the headquarters of the Armed Forces of the Philippines in Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City, stood mighty free of walls.

ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

Militants to GMA: Look at family first

DISPLAYS of extravagance or ostentation by high people in government have rankled various sectors, especially those representing militant groups.

Training his guns on Malacañang, Anakpawis party-list Rep. Rafael Mariano said President Macapagal-Arroyo should first remind members of her First Family to shun public displays of wealth before ordering government officials to stop lavish spending.

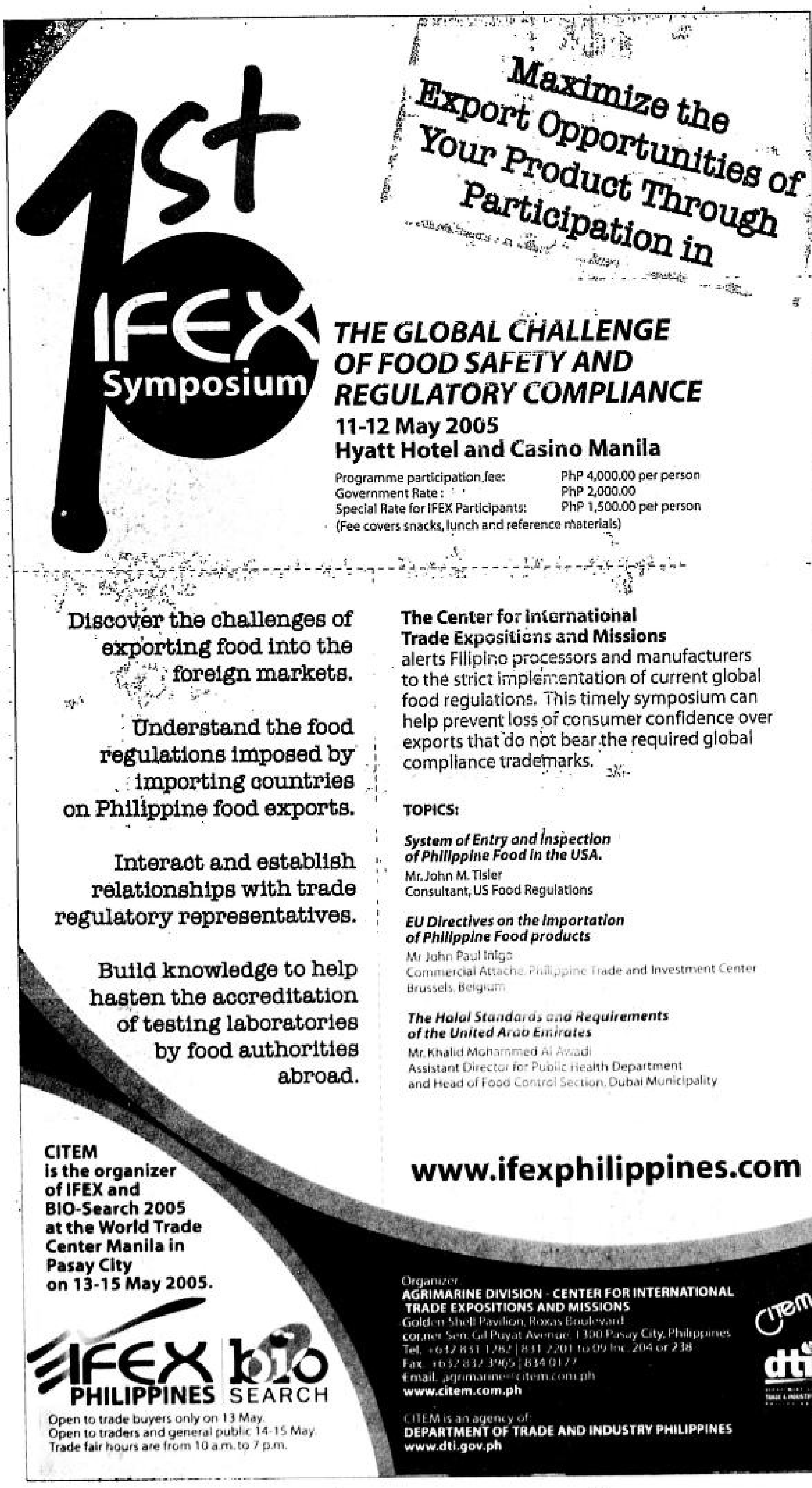
"Look at yourself and direct your orders to stop all lavish spending at your immediate family," Mariano said.

"It is the height of hypocrisy for Ms Arroyo to call for a stop to lavishness [by] officials while her own First Family stinks with top level extravagance."

Mariano added: "If she is serious about it, any inquiry on officials' lavishness and extravagance must start with her own husband and extend to a reexamination of her own programs that involve huge appropriations of public funds with dubious benefit to the public."

He said the President should be alarmed over the recent resignations of some government officials because of issues involving the spending of public funds.

He specifically cited former Philippine Coconut Authority administrator Evangeline Valbuena, former Presidential Commission on Good Government chair Haydee Yorac and retired Gen. Victor Corpus, formerly with the Natural Resources Development Board. *With a report from Philip C. Tubeza*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The Halal Standards and Requirements of the United Arab Emirates
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₱19-M sidewalks …

From page A1

walks using decorative paving blocks and renovation of existing covered shade to make the CGEA (Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo) more presentable, and implement it by phase if the available funds are not enough for the said projects."

Austria gave a detailed estimate of the project.

According to him, the renovation of the sidewalks would cost P6,241,264, while replacement/construction of covered shade would cost P13,551,000, for a total of P19,792,264.

Austria noted that an intial P5 million had been released, and he was seeking approval of the P14,792,264 balance.

But the enlisted men who brought the project to the attention of the INQUIRER said there was no need to renovate the sidewalks or the covered walkway because "they are still okay."

An enlisted man who represented the grumbling soldiers from a unit in Camp Aguinaldo said Abu—who issued a memo on austerity measures in February—should be the first to follow his memo.

In the memo of Feb. 25, 2005, Abu ordered the strict implementation of "energy conservation measures," including turning off all lights and air conditioning units by 5 p.m.

Abu also banned soldiers from spending the night in their offices, except during times when a security alert was in effect or when there was prior permission to work overtime for official functions.

In his memo, Abu said using electricity beyond office hours was a "malpractice" with "adverse effects on the financial resources and even the overall fiscal management of the AFP's resources."

Electricity, water bills

"Instead of having enough resources to support our operations, we give up part of our limited funds to pay our electricity and even water bills," the memo said.

The memo showed Abu's application of a double standard, the soldier said.

"He has imposed austerity measures on us, but he has imposed a different standard for himself," the enlisted man said.

He said that Abu—who is due to retire on June 24—had renovated the quarters and office of the AFP chief of staff, "even if there was nothing wrong with it."

Abu took over as AFP chief of staff on Oct. 29, 2004, replacing Gen. Narciso Abaya.

Mountainside cross marks Phivolcs team crash site

From page A1

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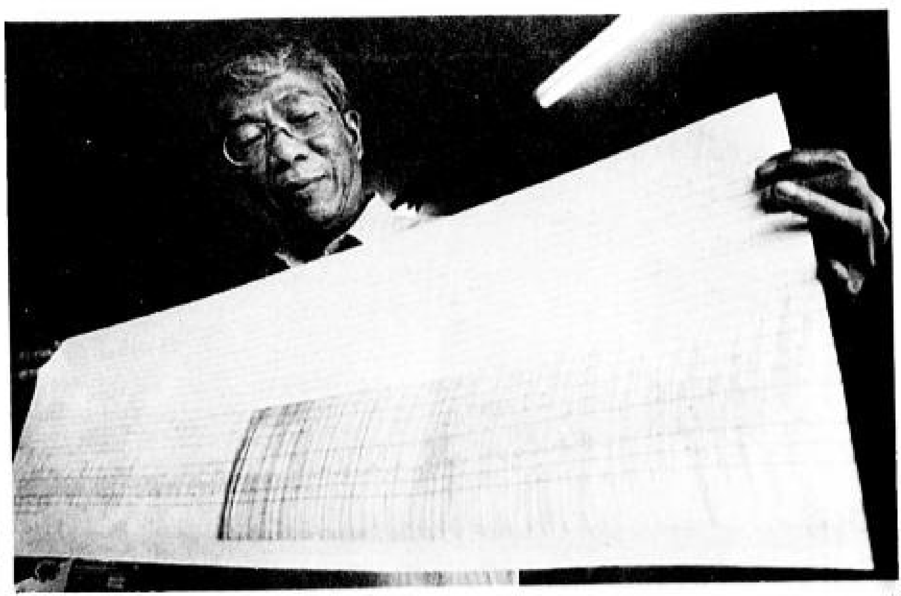

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The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

Reelected Blair reshuffles Cabinet

LONDON—British Prime Minister Tony Blair reshuffled his Cabinet Friday, keeping his popular heir-apparent Gordon Brown as finance minister, as he pledged to govern "wisely and sensibly" after his Labor Party won a third term in power in a general election that slashed its parliamentary majority by more than half.

Jack Straw, a central figure in Blair's decision to take Britain into the Iraq war, will remain foreign secretary as Britain prepares to take over the rotating European Union presidency on July 1 and hosts the Group of Eight summit in Scotland July 6-8.

John Reid, formerly health secretary, became defense secretary, replacing Geoff Hoon who held the job throughout the Iraq conflict, then endured a public grilling over the suicide of former UN weapons inspector David Kelly.

David Blunkett, forced to resign as home secretary last December amid a furor over a visa application for his lover's Filipina nanny, returned as secretary for work and pensions.

Labor made history Thursday when it snared an unprecedented third straight term in power, winning 355 seats in the 646-seat House of Commons and 35.2 percent of the vote, against 197 for the Conservatives (32.3 percent) and 62 for the Liberal Democrats (22.1 percent).

Smaller parties and independents took the remaining seats, with two constituencies yet to declare their results.

But the outcome meant Blair's majority in the Commons had been slashed by more than half, to a projected 66, from the commanding 167-seat edge that it captured in Labor's June 2001 landslide.

Brown, a more popular figure than Blair thanks to his stewardship of Britain's robust economy, had been expected to stay on as chancellor of the exchequer, the second most powerful job in the government.

He has made little secret of his yearning to suceeed Blair as prime minister, but his ambitions were frustrated when Blair announced last year that, if re-elected, he intended to serve a full term.

Discontent with Blair's decision to take Britain into the Iraq war alongside US President George W. Bush cost Labor dearly at the polls, dealing the prime minister "a bloody nose" in the words of more than one analyst.

Major British newspapers said Saturday Blair now had no choice but to adjust his style of governance.

"Labor's majority in the Commons is a healthy one, but Mr. Blair no longer has the command of his party or the support in the nation to govern with the kind of quasi-presidential defiance that came to mark his second term," The Guardian said.

The Independent said: "Voters punished the prime minister for Iraq, rewarded the chancellor (Gordon Brown) for his economic competence, and gave the pair of them more time to show if they could meet their promises to improve schools, hospitals and other public services." *AFP*

FORMER home secretary David Blunkett leaves No. 10 Downing Street, London, with his guide dog after a meeting with Britain's Prime Minister Tony Blair May 6. Blair is widely expected to find a new role for Blunkett, who quit the government amid the fallout from his affair with a married woman. AP

4 explosions rip Rangoon; 11 dead, 162 wounded

RANGOON—In the worst attack to hit Burma (Myanmar) since the military junta took power 40 years ago, four huge bomb explosions rocked the capital Rangoon on Saturday killing 11 people and leaving at least 162 wounded, witnesses said.

The near-simultaneous mid-afternoon blasts targeted two packed upscale shopping centers, the Dagon and Junction Eight, and the downtown Rangoon Trade Center which was hosting a Thai trade fair.

A witness at the downtown Dagon center, where two bombs exploded, counted at least 20 bodies while a witness at Junction Eight some 13 km north of the city center counted over 40, AFP said.

A Burmese national at the Rangoon Trade Center said he also saw scores of bodies there, while a stallholder at the center said there were "many casualties" as there was a fashion show being held on the third floor.

An official from Burma's military government confirmed four bombs were detonated but gave no casualty count. Hospitals were unable to give a death toll, but said over 200 people were wounded.

"I saw these people in a pool of blood. Some of them had their legs and arms blown off," said a man outside the trade center.

A survivor of the Dagon blast recalled panicked efforts to escape.

"There was an explosion in the Dagon center, and we were so frightened we ran downstairs to get out," a young woman told AFP.

A witness at Junction Eight said she counted "at least 40 bodies being brought out of the building."

Military-ruled Burma has been at various stages of civil war for decades, with government troops battling several ethnic guerrilla armies, but the capital has not seen an attack on this scale in living memory.

No group immediately claimed responsibility for the attacks.

Staff at Rangoon General Hospital said they were inundated with dead and wounded.

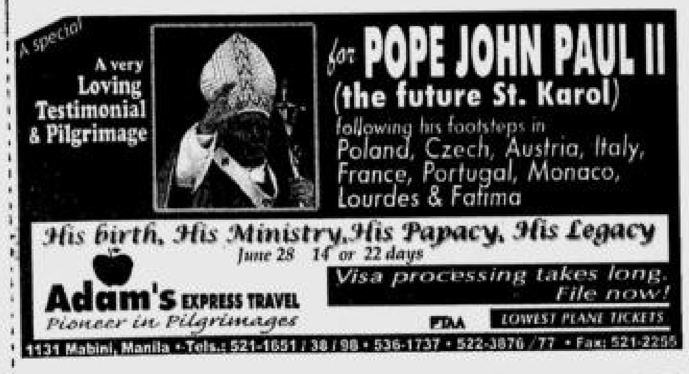
"We cannot say how many people are dead, but we have received about 200 injured people," an emergency services official at the hospital said, with the urgent cries of other staff and the wounded echoing in the background.

Several junta officials were seen at the scene of the attacks. Access roads to the bomb sites were blocked by security forces.

The blasts came on the day Asian and European foreign ministers meeting in Japan urged Burma to speed up democratic reforms, but they stopped short of making more specific demands, such as the release of opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi from house arrest.

Aung San Suu Kyi, a Nobel peace laureate, has spent most of the past 15 years in detention after her National League for Democracy won a landslide victory in 1990 elections but was never allowed to take power.

Burma has seen numerous small and mid-sized bomb blasts since late last year. *AFP, AP*



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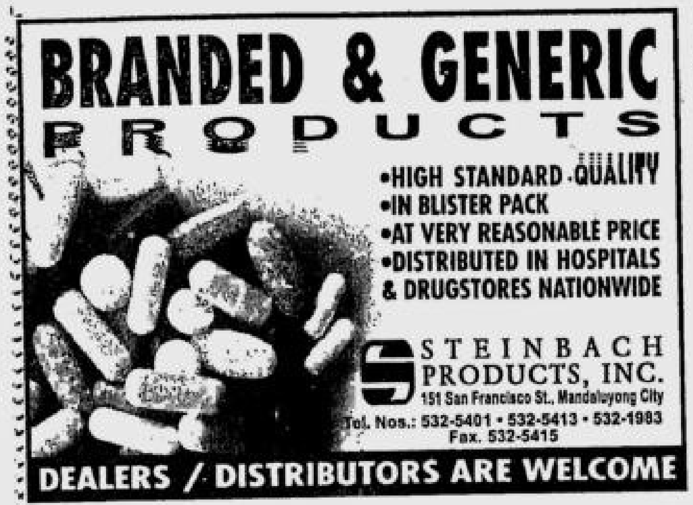

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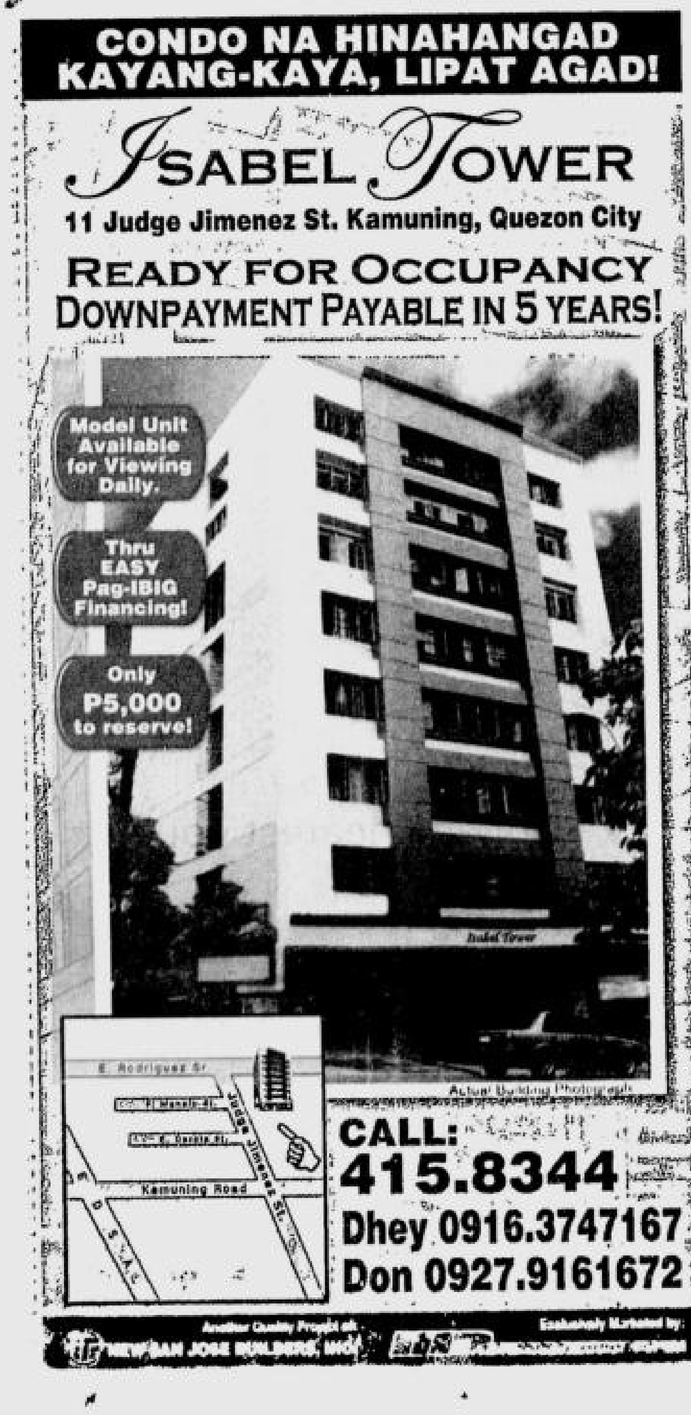

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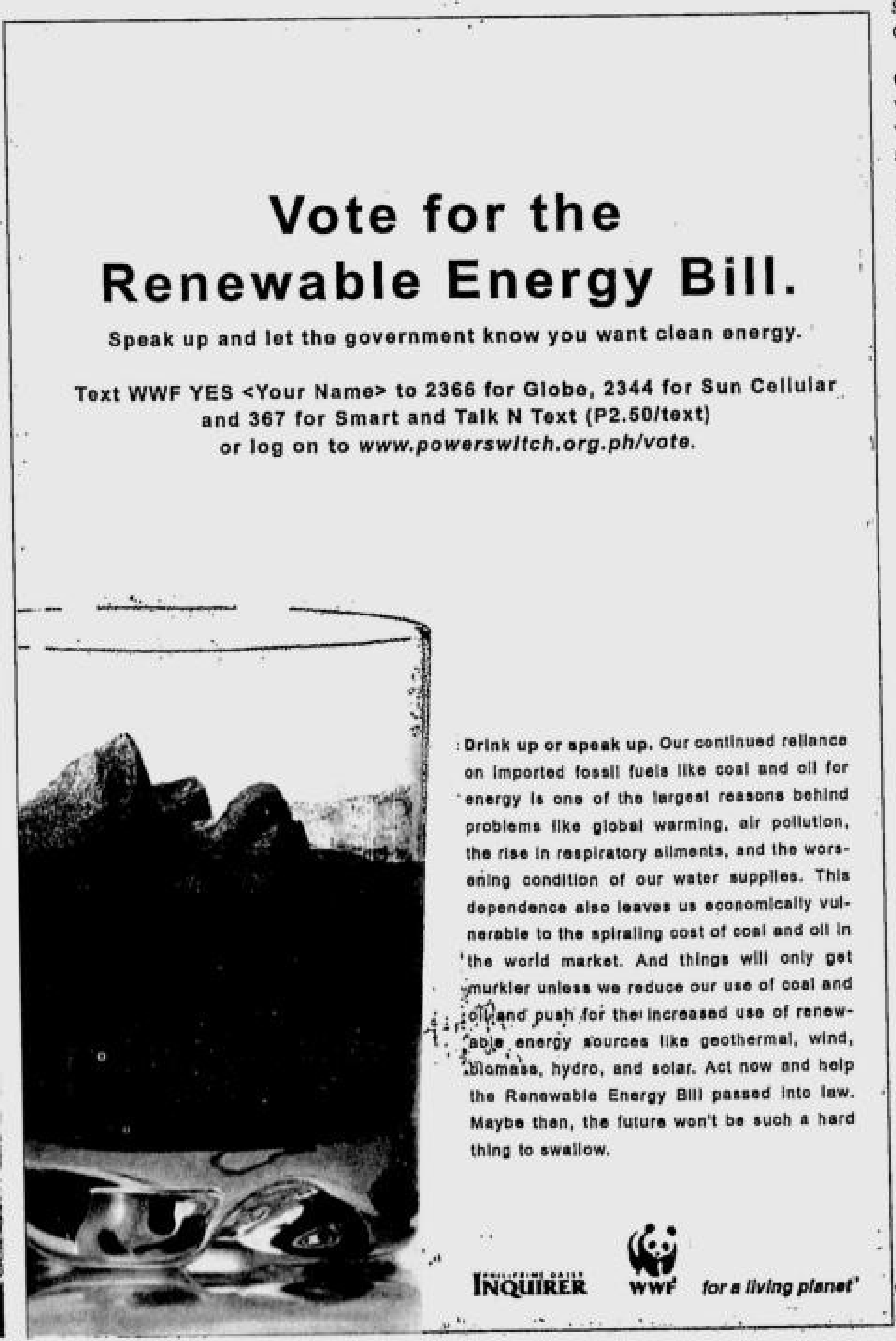

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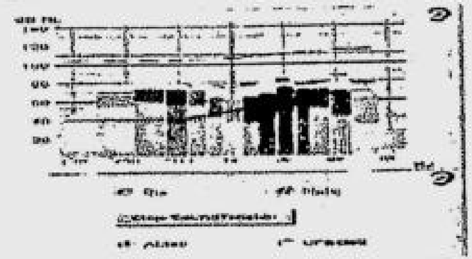

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Massive car bomb explosion in Iraq kills 17, including 4 Americans

IRAQI fire fighters work to extinguish a fire after a car bomb exploded in a commercial neighborhood of central Baghdad, Iraq May 7. AP

BAGHDAD—A massive car bomb exploded in central Baghdad Saturday, killing at least 17 people, including four US citizens, as Prime Minister Ibrahim Jaafari fine-tuned his national unity Cabinet.

Meanwhile, Australia reaffirmed it would not bow to a 72-hour deadline given by insurgents to withdraw its troops from Iraq, despite their threat to execute an Australian contractor they have taken hostage.

At least 17 people were killed and dozens wounded when the car bomb exploded as a convoy of four-wheel-drive vehicles drove down a main street near Tahrir Square, an interior ministry official said.

Thirteen Iraqi civilians were among the victims while witnesses said the huge blast also killed four foreigners, whose bodies were completely charred inside their vehicles.

"According to the badges we found, they are Americans," said medic Khaled Ibrahim. A US officer on the scene confirmed to AFP that the four were US citizens.

The booby-trapped vehicle was parked on the central Tahrir Square, near Saadun Street. Nearby shops were severely damaged and at least eight other vehicles destroyed by the huge blast that sent a plume of black smoke rising over the city at 11:05 a.m.

Another loud blast was heard at 10:40 a.m. from the direction of the Green Zone, a high security compound which is home to Iraq's key institutions. US officers said they had carried out a controlled explosion.

The capital has been hit by dozens of car bombs in recent days. Close to 300 people have been killed in insurgent attacks already this month.

Jaafari was expected to announce he had reached a deal with Shiite and Sunni representatives on filling vacant Cabinet seats, including the key oil and defense ministries.

"Yes, there has been agreement" on the remaining Cabinet appointments, Jaafari spokesperson Laith Kubba said, giving no details.

The prime minister, who announced a partial line-up of 29 ministers 10 days ago, was expected to unveil the full Cabinet Saturday afternoon, he said.

The new ministers and deputy premiers will be presented to parliament on Sunday, he added.

Representatives of the dominant Shiite bloc, which won a majority of parliamentary seats in January elections, and leaders of the Sunni Arab minority agreed the full line-up on Friday.

"It's nearly a done deal," Jawad Maliki, the number two in Jaafari's Dawa party, said.

The oil minister is expected to be Ibrahim Bahr al-Ulum, son of a prominent Shiite cleric, who already held the post in the interim administration appointed by US-led forces in September 2003.

And the defense portfolio is expected to go to Saadun al-Dulaimi, a Sunni, Maliki said. *AFP*

UN: World must pressure N. Korea not to test nuke

UNITED NATIONS—Signs that North Korea may be planning to test a nuclear weapon prompted the United Nations atomic watchdog on Friday to ask world leaders to urgently pressure the reclusive state to desist.

A US defense official in Washington said US spy satellites images had shown what may be preparations for an underground nuclear test, although he warned that this also might be an elaborate ruse by the North Koreans.

The images showed a vast hole being dug at a possible test site at Kilju in northeastern North Korea, and then the hole being filled in, as might be done for an underground test, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The satellites also detected viewing stands set up some distance from the hole, possibly for North Korean government officials to watch any nuclear test, the official said.

The head of the UN's International Atomic Energy Agency, Mohamed ElBaradei, said the situation was urgent and called on all leaders in contact with Pyongyang to use their influence to stop the reclusive state from detonating a nuclear bomb.

"I hope every leader who has contact with North Korea is on the phone today with North Korean authorities to dissuade (them) from a test," ElBaradei told reporters on the sidelines of a UN-sponsored conference on nuclear disarmament. *Reuters*

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Mothers testify they

SANTA MARIA, Calif.—The mothers and sisters of two young men at the center of Michael Jackson's child molestation case came to his defense on Friday, telling jurors they considered the pop icon beyond reproach and never questioned his practice of sleeping with children.

The defense testimony came a day after Wade Robson and Brett Barnes, who were portrayed by prosecutors as adolescent victims of Jackson in the 1990s, denied the 46-year-old superstar molested them.

All four women, family members of Robson and Barnes, said Jackson spent many nights sleeping alone with the boys at Neverland Valley Ranch and

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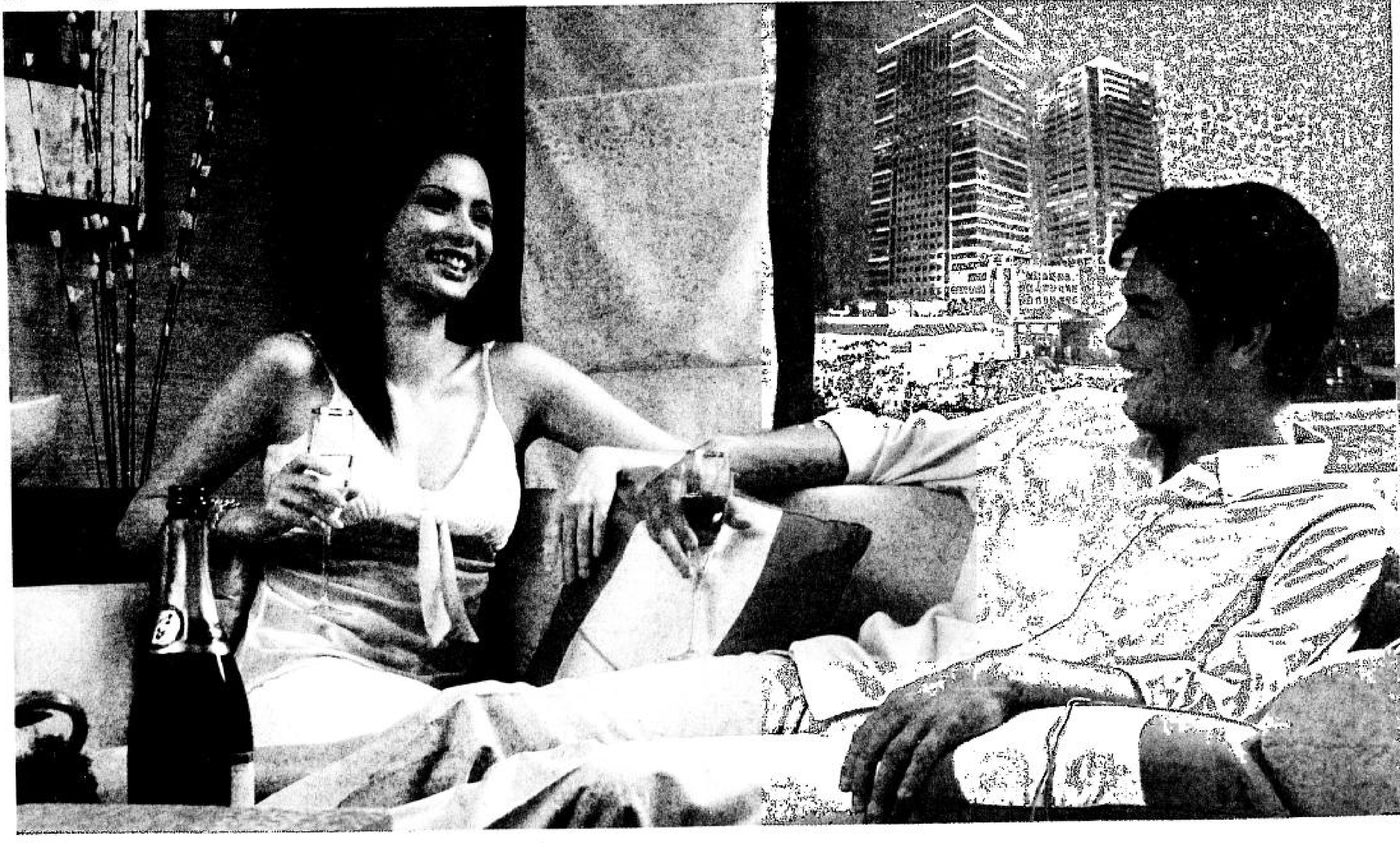

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anese Crown Princess Masako, who has long t out of the public eye due to stress, smiles as she her husband Crown Prince Naruhito (not in to) attend a send off ceremony for Emperor hito and Empress Michiko at the Tokyo ernational Airport May 7. AFP

trusted Jackson

elsewhere, but said they never considered that behavior inappropriate.

"I've known Michael a long time," Robson's mother, Joy, said under questioning from lead Jackson attorney Tom Mesereau.

"I know him very well. I've spent many hours talking to him. I feel like he's a member of my family. I trust him. I trust him with my children."

She added that she considers Jackson unique and "a very special person."

"He's not the boy-next-door. He's Michael Jackson... He's very pure in his love for children. To know him is to love him and trust him," Robson said. *Reuters*

Pakistan foils new conspiracy to kill Musharraf

ISLAMABAD—Pakistani intelligence officials said on Friday they had foiled a new conspiracy to kill President Pervez Musharraf with a series of arrests, including the capture of al-Qaida's third most senior commander.

US agents and Pakistani authorities were interrogating al-Qaida Abu Faraj Farj al-Libbi, one of Osama bin Laden's top lieutenants, after he was run to ground in the rugged North West Frontier Province Monday, officials said.

But they say it was the recapture this week of Mushtaq Ahmed that led to a swoop in Lahore on Wednesday that netted eight people planning a fresh assassination hit on Musharraf.

A ninth was picked up in Lahore on Thursday morning. They all belonged to Jaish-e-Mohammed, a Sunni militant group that has forged links with al-Qaida.

Ahmed escaped custody in December after being sentenced to death for his role in one of two attempts on Musharraf's life masterminded by al-Libbi in December 2003.

The ease with which Ahmed escaped raised embarrassing questions over security at the Rawalpindi air base where he was being held, and the government kept quiet about it for weeks.

He escaped by breaking a window, while supposedly performing his ablutions for early morning prayers.

Interior Minister Aftab Ahmed Khan Sherpao earlier dismissed reports that the recent arrests had uncovered a new plot against Musharraf, but he said weapons, including grenades, were seized during the Lahore swoop.

US officials describe al-Libbi as the successor to Khalid Sheikh Mohammed—the al-Qaida No. 3 arrested in Pakistan in March 2003. They hope his capture could help them trace the whereabouts of Bin Laden or his deputy, Ayman al-Zawahri.

Intelligence sources say al-Libbi is a friend of Mohammed, the alleged brain behind the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks on the United States.

"US intelligence agents have been part of the operation to catch al-Libbi," said one intelligence official. "Al-Libbi is being interrogated jointly by a US and Pakistani team."

Al-Libbi was captured along with a handful of fighters, including an as yet unidentified al-Qaida figure who also carries a US reward of several million dollars, one senior Pakistani official said.

The Libyan's association with Bin Laden dates to the jihad that the US covertly backed against the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan in the 1980s and to Sudan, where the al-Qaida chief was based in the early 1990s. *Reuters*

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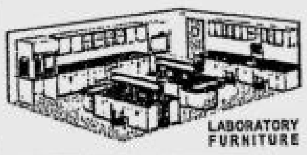
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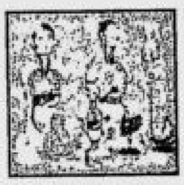
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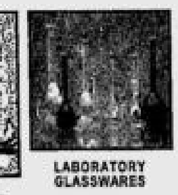
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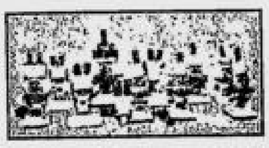
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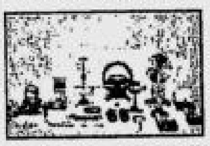
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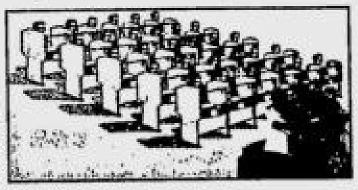
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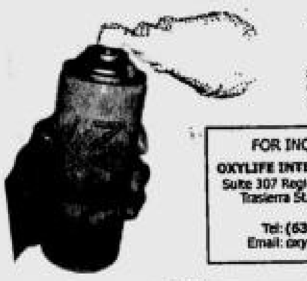

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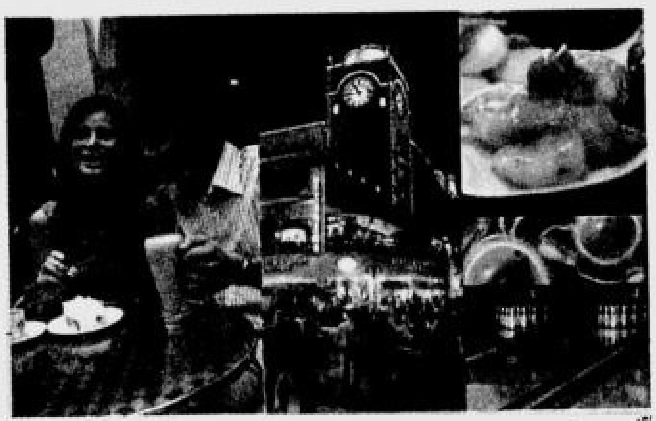

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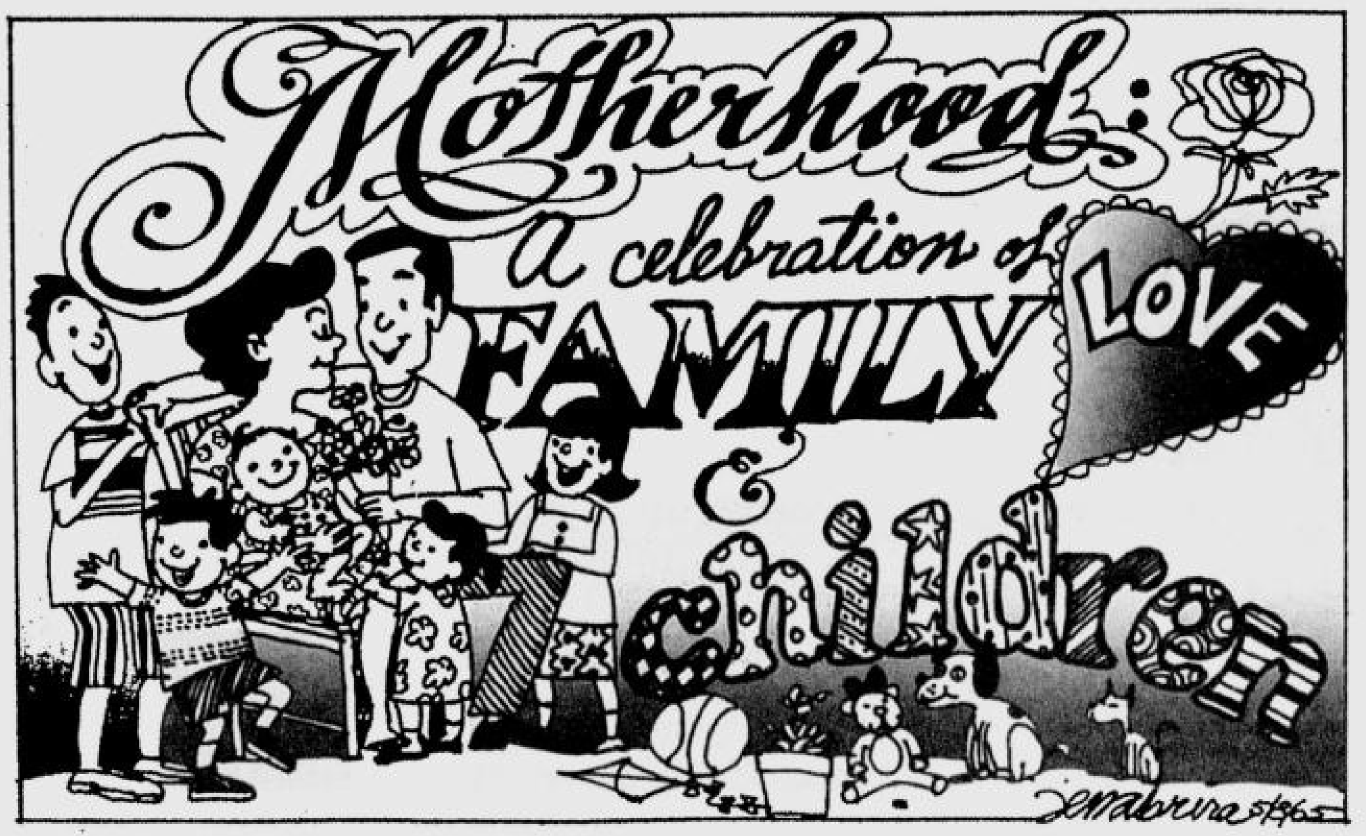

Alone

EDITORIAL

ON MAY 3, the Communist Party of the Philippines' central committee accused the Chinese government of withdrawing support for the armed struggles in Southeast Asia "in exchange for China's accommodation by Washington into the world capitalist system." Besides the Philippines, Nepal also suffers from a long-standing (and long-running) Maoist insurgency. Neither have succeeded, although the Nepalese communists seem more immune to the consequences of changes in the world.

The CPP virtuously claims that its "revolutionary forces and people resolutely oppose the US-led campaign for neoliberal globalization, while China has welcomed it and relished membership in the WTO (World Trade Organization)." It added that Philippine communist leaders, (many of them exiled in Western Europe), feel hurt and orphaned by the changes in China. To be sure, the time when Filipino communists depended on their Chinese comrades for financial and military help seems far, far gone. The first big blow came in 1975 when, in a policy shift, the Philippines recognized Beijing as the legitimate Chinese government, instead of Taiwan.

Mao Zedong, who brought the Chinese communist to power, had dazzled the leaders of the CPP in their youth. The disastrous Great Leap Forward of Mao, which had Chinese peasants condemned to starvation as they worked to produce industrial-quality iron in their backyards, didn't dampen the Filipino reds' admiration of him. Neither did the excesses (to put it mildly) of the Cultural Revolution, which Mao used to purge rivals. To this day, the orientation and culture of Philippine communism are still oriented toward the Cultural Revolution era, which China now considers best to forget.

Under Deng Xiaopeng, who was abused during the Cultural Revolution, Maoism was modified to arrive at "Socialism with Chinese characteristics." The result has been decade upon decade of spectacular economic growth, and the rise, in generation, of China from a gigantic backwater nation to a potent economic, political and military force in the world. Setbacks along the way, such as the Tiananmen Square massacre, taught the Chinese government to tighten up on politics and public expression, concentrating on building a comfortable elite, middle class, and a ruthless manipulation of the masses to provide cheap labor in factories. Throughout that time, Filipino communists loyally defended their Beijing comrades. No one can forget Crispin Beltran's remark at the time that the Chinese government crackdown in Tiananmen was justified.

But what has slavish loyalty to China gotten Filipino communists? The CPP now wants the billions of dollars in economic assistance to the Philippines cut down. But for them the unkindest cut of all is the $1.2 million in military assistance China is extending to the Philippine government to strengthen the latter's campaign against communist rebels, this according to the Department of National Defense. "We want to get this aid in the form of equipment because we will start building what we call 'freedom' roads in 500 conflict areas in several regions where there had been very strong rebel presence and activities," Defense Secretary Avelino Cruz said.

So after over 35 years of trying to overthrow the government, what does the New People's Army have to show for it? Rejection from those who once inspired them is what. And it gets worse.

On April 26, 2005, the European Court of First Instance in Luxemburg rejected a move by Jose Maria Sison to annul the decision of the Council of the European Union to refuse him access to a file on which his inclusion in a list of terrorists was based. This means the original decision to deny him access to the file was upheld. Still pending before the courts is Sison's appeal to be stricken off the list of terrorists.

The Dutch classification of Sison as a "foreign terrorist" came on Aug. 13, 2003, a day after the US government declared the CPP-NPA a terrorist organization. The Dutch cut off Sison's "social allowance" and his health insurance, and he was ordered to leave his house. So, Sison filed case after case after case. Among the basis for Sison's classification as a terrorist was his formal announcement of his approval of the NPA's kidnapping of several persons in 1998.

The CPP is isolated; its former friends have turned their backs; and yet Filipino communists refuse to consider the obvious. Have they failed to adapt to the times and, thus, condemned themselves to the rubbish bin of history?

White and black

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

IT was really heartwarming to see how the new pope was welcomed by the world, not only by the Catholics but by the Christians of all denominations, and even the peoples of other faiths. The Jews, the Muslims, the Buddhists, and other believers also rejoice in his ascension. Pope Benedict XVI embodies the universal yearning for peace that has eluded humanity since time began. This age of breathless intellectual discoveries has only sharpened the mind of man but has yet to soften his heart.

Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger was the left hand of the late revered Pope John Paul II, whose conservative principles the new pontiff of the Catholic Church shared and rigidly enforced. As the former stern head of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, he does not seem to be intimidated by the thinning ranks of Catholics. He prefers a more compact group like the early Christians during the time of Saint Peter who firmly believed in the orthodox rules now being challenged in the modern world.

In his first homily as the new head of the Catholic Church, Pope Benedict XVI declared

"A mature faith is not one that follows the waves of fashion and the latest novelty; adult and mature faith is a faith that is deeply grounded in friendship with Christ. Having clear faith according to the credo of the Church is often labeled fundamentalism, while relativism, that is, allowing oneself to be carried here and there by whatever wind of doctrine, seems like the only attitude with any currency today."

Many hope, however, that in his new capacity as the Holy Father, he will take a more conciliatory look at such modern concepts as women in the church, abortion, marriage of priests, divorce, homosexuality, and other controversial subjects. He has promised to seek the "help and advice" of the bishops in addressing these problems.

It is noteworthy that Pope Benedict's election to the throne of St. Peter was relatively short. His immediate predecessor was chosen only on the eighth balloting although he became so beloved that many are now calling him the Great. By contrast, Cardinal Ratzinger was ahead in the first three ballotings and finally won in the fourth, with 95 votes well above the required two-thirds vote of 77. He was obviously qualified for the position although his age at 78 might have been taken by some as a disadvantage. But others might have thought that it would make him only a transitional pope, compared to Pope John Paul II, who was elected when he was only 58 and served for 26 years.

The new Pope is an intellectual and was before his appointment to the curia in Rome a professor and favorite lecturer of theology for many years. He is a pianist and considers the music of Mozart "so luminous and at the same time so deep." He is an accomplished speaker in German, Latin, Italian, French, Spanish, and English and has written extensively against liberation theology as contrary to the original discipline of Christianity. Interestingly, his older brother Georg is also a priest and has remained as such although his status could have been improved by Cardinal Ratzinger, who was then the No. 2 man in the Vatican. (But what am I saying—we are not talking of the Philippines!)

Pope Benedict XVI is certainly closer to the Almighty than we are, but we offer him our prayers just the same for the success of his reign as the Vicar of the Lord. May it be blessed with greater understanding among peoples of all faiths affirming a common reverence for a universal God, whatever be his Holy Name.

So now that we have talked of things divine, let us now turn our attention to more mortal and immoral matters.

There was a report published last week in this paper of another military man who seems to have misused his office and public funds for his own private advantage. He is Gen. Dionisio Santiago who, while as chief of staff, deposited to his personal bank account a check for P8 million intended for the repair of a swimming pool in Camp Aguinaldo. The present chief of staff has ordered the filing of a complaint for graft against Santiago with the Office of the Ombudsman.

Santiago claims innocence and says he merely fast-tracked the project, for which he paid the contractor himself. It is not clear why he deposited the check to his own account and returned it later to the AFP after his investigation commenced. Interestingly, he was appointed executive director of the Dangerous Drugs Board after his retirement from the AFP, another militarization of a civilian office.

I have written in this column about the suspicious fortunes of Gen. Carlos Garcia, Gen, Jacinto Ligot, Lt. Col. George A. Rabusa, and their respective wives who have made many expensive trips abroad with the wife of Gen. Angelo Reyes. Lawyers Frank Chavez and Mario Ongkiko and Clean Hands have filed plunder charges against them but not yet against Reyes and another retired chief of staff, Gen. Lisandro Abadia, who both have also some explaining to do. The details of the accusations can be accessed at www.tapatt.org.

Kudos to all citizens taking action against the abuses of the military! Are we just glimpsing the tip of the iceberg?

God's plans

HIGH BLOOD

Tranquilino V. Quinto Jr.

WE'D also like to know the concerns of the sixtysomething and above, what makes their blood pressure rise or makes them sit back, content that all's well with their world and with themselves. —Ed.

FORTY is the old age of youth; 50 the youth of old age. Then at 60, we go through the twilight years of life. The time and last chance for us to share love, kindness, care, gentleness, patience and truth with others. Psalm 90:10 in the Holy Bible says, "The length of our days is seventy years or eighty, if we have the strength (if we took good care of ourselves), yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass and we fly away" (die). What a warning shot for those who think and act as if they'd live forever. For, indeed, youth will slip away from every mortal, and the illnesses of old age will sneak up on us until death snatches us away.

I turned 61 last Feb. 13, 2005. When I reminisce my past, I could only thank God for taking care of me even if I lived my life my way—which, I now realize, was not the best way.

Growing up in the province, life for me was so simple and easy then. It had been eat-drink-and-be-merry, and don't-think-about-tomorrow, for life is forever. I don't know, but I must have had rocks in my head for I didn't even bother to stay in college when I had the chance.

At 24, I went to Manila and found myself a job, and life became more exciting for me. At 26, I met, fell head over heels and married a pretty and ambitious woman. With a steady job, a pretty wife and good health, I thought: "This is the perfect life! What more could I ask for?" I had the world practically on my palms.

Then the reality that life was such a complicated thing hit me. Before, I lived only for and by myself. I was not beholden to anyone. Now, there was the responsibility to love, care, support and provide for another person—my wife. But all right. No problem there. Until the babies started coming one after the other, bringing with them added responsibility. And as if that were not enough, world development caught up with us, choking us with inflation and all those economic woes.

Soon my earnings could hardly support a growing family. Even when my wife went to work, our joint income barely afforded us a decent life. We had to work long hours, and we saw each other less. Those times away from each other soon took a toll on our relationship. My family began to crumble.

I feel remorseful at times for my failure to take life more seriously as a young man. I could have made a big difference

At 38, fortune smiled on me and I got a job in the Middle East. Economically, life got a little better, but the distance that separated us caused my family to disintegrate. When I came back to the country at 45, there was nothing left for me. My wife had left me, tugging my children along. I have been alone for 20 years now.

But my sojourn in the Middle East prepared me for this. It was in that far-away country where I learned to trust God, believe in His promise in Jeremiah 29:11 that says, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to give you hope and a future." With His words in my heart, I'm looking forward to live to my 70s. A big challenge, indeed, but I trust in God's faithfulness.

Nothing gets my goat faster than couples that are so engrossed in meeting their material needs that they fail to consider the outcome of their greed on their family relationships. It irritates me to see people who are so calloused they fail to see the needs of the children, the elderly and the orphans, even when they are capable of helping them. It saddens me when I see the youth so oblivious and so apathetic to the gripping problems in our midst like child abuse, poverty, lack of education, lack of decent family environment, etc.

I feel remorseful at times for my failure to take life more seriously as a young man. I could have made a big difference. To ease my conscience, I share my experiences with anyone who cares to listen. I now know that to be successful in life, you must prepare for it physically, emotionally, financially, academically and spiritually. I didn't really know that as a young man. And even if I knew, I must have simply ignored it.

To be successful in life you should have a plan. The more complete the plan the more likely its success. If I could live my life all over again, I would live it the way God would like me to. To cry over spilt milk now is only a waste of time and energy. I cannot say exactly that there's really nothing I can do because there's something that I still can do: To trust in God's sovereignty over His creation. For even Jesus said, "You will have trouble in this world, but take heart. I have overcome the world." What a consolation! That is my hope today.

Tranquilino V. Quinto Jr., 61, is a retired NGO worker and former pastor of the ACGFI church. He is currently working with the pastor of the World Mission Community Church in Burol, Dasmariñas, Cavite.

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Due to a computer glitch, we are unable to run the column of Fr. Jerry Orbos, SVD, today.—Ed.

Cancer as a teacher

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

WOODRIDGE, Illinois—We have just returned from a short visit with my sister-in-law Cora Mendoza Farolan. She now lives in Seattle, Washington with daughter Cathy and two grandsons, Marc and Max. Cathy is married to Michael Schulz who works at the Microsoft head office in Seattle.

"Baby," as Cora is known to family and friends, has for the last couple of years been waging a tough battle against a number of painful and debilitating diseases. Last January, she was diagnosed with lymphoma, a cancer of the lymphatic system requiring several chemotherapy sessions.

When my brother died in 1974, Baby started to develop rheumatoid arthritis which left her feeling crippled. This was compounded by a situation of dryness in the eyes and mouth. It was difficult to shed tears and so she had to infuse her eyes with artificial tears. For the mouth condition, she carried a bottle of water everywhere she went and sucked on hard candies to stimulate her salivary glands. It was a strenuous time for Baby.

The family left for the United States in 1976, and test results after a visit with doctors in Richmond, Virginia showed that she was suffering from a rare disease known as Sjogren's Syndrome. This is an inflammatory disorder characterized by excessive dryness of the eyes and mouth. Dryness of the eyes may severely damage the cornea and a lack of tears can cause permanent eye damage. Insufficient saliva in the mouth can dull taste and smell, making eating and swallowing painful. Its cause is still unknown and is more prevalent in women than in men.

The doctors started her on Prednisone, a prescription therapy for the disease. But a few years later, her parotid glands (near the jaw) became swollen and she developed a painful vasculitis (inflammation of blood vessels) in her lower leg. Other side effects of the drug were brittle bones and chronic kidney failure.

After a few years, a shortness of breath led to extensive tests that showed up a tumor in her lungs.

Three chemo sessions later, the doctors say that the mass had shrunk from 2.8 cm. to 1.2 cm.. She has also regained a couple of pounds. Not yet her ideal weight, but Baby says that she is gradually getting there—a sign of a strong fighting spirit which I believe will see her through this painful period. Her best therapy is watching the grandchildren playing around her and the frequent visits of another daughter, Francesca, from San Francisco. Baby will be 65 next month. Her family and classmates from Maryknoll High School '56 and Philippine Women's University, '60 continue to pray for her.

* * *

By coincidence, on the flight back from Seattle, I came across an article by Stan Goldberg in USA Today newspaper. Goldberg suffers from prostate cancer. He writes that when he realized his condition, "instead of running, I allowed the cancer to become my teacher. I would have preferred an honored sage, a world-renowned spiritual teacher or even a cranky uncle who thought he knew everything about life. But I got stuck with death. And to this day, I am grateful."

Goldberg explains: "There's a Tibetan saying that one should move into sharp points. There are few things as sharp as cancer. Instead of running you accept what it can teach you about life. I saw the joy on the face of a woman as she tasted a small piece of chocolate. I witnessed tears flowing from a musician listening for the last time to a Greig concerto. There's nothing like the possibility of death to give you a wake up call about living.

"Cancer is painful, frightening and tragically affects many. But it is also something else. It is a teacher. If we listen carefully, we can learn to live more fully and, ironically, to die better. I would have preferred a wise and compassionate uncle, but I didn't get one. Instead, I received lessons so simple and pure that they will continue to influence me throughout my life."

* * *

Some two hours away from Woodridge is Bloomington, twin city of Normal, Illinois, site of the Illinois State University (ISU). Bloomington is home to our niece, Patricia Mapa, married to a Pole with the jawbreaking name of Krzysztof Ostaszewski. We call him "Kris" for short. Kris is the Actuarial Program Director, Department of Mathematics, at the state university. He was scheduled to give a talk last year at the Social Security System offices in Manila but for some reason, it didn't push through. Two weeks ago, he gave a lecture in Chicago on "The Social Security System in the United States—Its Financing and Reform." As some of us may know, one of the key domestic issues of President Bush's second term is the privatization of their social security. So far, it has had rough sailing, with most Americans opposing any changes in the system which could reduce benefits currently being enjoyed by retirees. I wonder how our own Social Security System is faring?

Also in Bloomington, we met Angelo and May Favis. Angelo, a UP Conservatory of Music graduate, now teaches classical guitar at the ISU. He finished his master's at the San Francisco Conservatory and has a Ph.D. from the Manhattan School of Music. His wife May is the daughter of popular radio announcer Lito Gorospe and Astrid Samonte.

Another couple enjoying their retirement days commuting between Bloomington and Manila is Vincent and Inez Quevedo. Vincent is the older brother of Archbishop Orlando Quevedo, former head of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines, and a leading candidate for cardinal.

Measuring up

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

DO we ever measure up to our mothers?

Growing up, my four sisters and I withered under the disappointed judgments of our Mama's friends and town mates. "None of you look anything like her!" was the verdict handed down as we approached puberty. Even I, who was said to look the most like her, was a let-down. I may have had most of her features, but they were either deficient or in the wrong places.

It seemed that Mama's beauty, and her athleticism and charm, had been distributed in diminishing quantities among her nine surviving children. My brother Bo was the only one to go into serious athletics, getting into the varsity football team as well as the track team. But even he, for all his NCAA medals, couldn't quite measure up to Mama who had made it to the national hurdles team. She was known in her hometown for her fair porcelain skin and the pair of dimples that bracketed her lips and turned her into a dazzler when she smiled. My sisters Chona and Joni, the fairest among us, failed to inherit her dimples and while we three other sisters—Neneng, Charo, and I—could boast of dimpled features, we each had only one. Upon the promptings of a *yaya*, I would religiously pucker and poke my left cheek each morning, in a vain attempt to create another dimple just so I could look more like my mother.

"Story of our lives!" my cousin Letty laughed when I told her about our lifelong feelings of inadequacy when compared to our mother. It seems that she, too, along with her five sisters, grew up constantly failing in comparison to our Tita Lala, who in photos of her younger days was breathtakingly "beauty queen" material. Even as she got older, Tita Lala always seemed to me the epitome of sophistication. She had a throaty laugh and always seemed to be dressed in the height of fashion, never appearing in public without a fully made-up face.

* * *

PERHAPS, the conventions of the times had something to do with it. Perusing family albums and dusty frames for pictures of Mama to use on her 25th death anniversary, my sister-in-law Coratec mused how well-dressed everybody seemed to be. "Look, they're always in dresses with matching bags and shoes!" True enough, all the women appeared well turned-out, hair coiffed in beehives or permed bobs, feet shod in high heels with the seams of their nylons straight and neat.

How would our own children remember us, I wonder? Where our parents' generation made it a point to show up even for simple family affairs in party outfits, the men nattily turned out in dress pants, barongs or long-sleeved shirts (in one photo, my Papa even wears a jaunty fedora), we think nothing of going to the mall or even for dinner in a restaurant in rubber flip-flops (*may beads naman!*), *puruntong* shorts and loose tees. I dread what my grandchildren will think of their *lola*, should today's photos end up in a similar tribute. Would they blame me for their own atrocious fashion sense?

* * *

FASHION was a major arena for the clash of generations. For years, my mother hired a seamstress whom she paid by the day. Working in our sala, the seamstress would produce outfit after outfit, of my mother's design or else copied from catalogues. Of course, all of us girls had different ideas about what was considered current fashion, and it took all of our wits to avoid wearing the dresses that resulted from this collaboration.

I remember Mama working feverishly with the seamstress one summer to create enough outfits for my eldest sister Neneng to wear at a fashion show featuring girls from our hometown's "finest" families. On the night of the pageant, Neneng refused to wear any of the dresses which were better suited for a matron than for a teenager. After many minutes of bickering and shouting, out marched my mother with an armload of new dresses and promptly threw them out the window!

Our own clashes were less melodramatic, but we had our fashion showdowns, too. On the day of my graduation from high school, for instance, my mother had a coatdress of a particularly hideous shade of orange in a blinding satin fabric, all ready for me. But my favorite dress at the time was an empire-cut mini in baby blue cotton with striped pink piping. When Mama saw it, she turned livid and threatened to boycott the ceremonies if I insisted on wearing the "scandalous" outfit. I put my foot down (after a torrent of tears), she reluctantly joined us for the ceremonies, but as punishment I never had my graduation banquet.

* * *

TODAY, decades later, I realize that while none of us inherited her looks or athletic abilities, Mama handed down so much more to us.

For one thing, we girls all inherited, to various degrees (and I regret to say I am the most outstanding) the Braganza *puson* (lower abdomen). Looking over pictures of Mama in her late 40s, my husband exclaimed: "That *puson* looks familiar!" glancing down my torso.

I may also have failed to inherit Mama's dimples, but I certainly have her temper. This is something I have known since early adulthood, and something I have fought to consciously control, even if I let fly with it at times.

Something I hope I have taken from her as well is her inner strength. I don't know if I could have coped, as she did, with the death of two of her children, one of them her first-born. Maybe, knowing the heartaches that lay in wait for any woman, she refused to coddle any of her daughters, instilling in us a sense of independence and determination to make it on our own merits. If my sisters and I, and our daughters, are all strong women, that's all because of Mama. We thank her for that gift, which has served us far better than a fair complexion or a pair of dazzling dimples.

Men and their mothers

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

AS they sat on a bench in the crowded courtroom, she began to wipe the sweat on his face with a crumpled handkerchief. He lowered his head and leaned slightly toward his mother. She hadn't seen him in a while, and now he was back in her arms, her son, her little one. It was 1954. The man was Luis Taruc, the 41-year-old dreaded Huk Supremo, who was being tried for rebellion. His mother, Roberta, kept him company every single day of the trial.

It was an image that stayed a long time with my father, Pedro David, then a young assistant provincial fiscal assigned to prosecute the legendary hero of Central Luzon's peasantry. He remembered being transfixed by that scene. At that moment, my father said, he knew in his heart he was prosecuting a good man. In the evening, over supper, he shared with my mother his misgivings about the Taruc case. My father had a deep sense of social justice.

But he had a job to do, and it wasn't an easy one. Pampanga in the 1950s was a hotbed of rebellion. Cane fields were being torched daily by landless peasants. So-called "civilian guards" funded by the landlords roamed the barrios in search of Huk rebels. We were not a landed family, but being a government lawyer, my father found himself upholding the laws of a government that took the side of the landlords. I was in grade school. I remember sharing our home with soldiers who had been sent to provide us security for the duration of the trial. My father won his spurs in that celebrated case. Luis Taruc was convicted for the crime of rebellion complex, under a law that, if I recall correctly, was later declared unconstitutional. He spent 16 years in prison. Marcos freed him so he could parade him as a symbol of his commitment to agrarian reform.

Many years later, I met Ka Luis at a function in the University of the Philippines. I introduced myself as the son of Fiscal Pedro David. The name quickly rang a bell. He looked at me as if searching for the face of the young man who had sent him to jail. Then he smiled warmly and shook my hand. "Your father was a good lawyer, and he was always fair," he told me. "I hold no grudge against him whatsoever; he was doing his duty." "But," he added with a chuckle, "I am glad his son and I are now on the same side."

It was the beginning of a long friendship. I invited him a few times to my TV program. He would ask me to accompany him on his visits to remote barrios in Nueva Ecija and Pampanga, where communities of Hukvets revered him as a hero. Two years ago, he came to our home in Betis. He met my brothers and sisters and regaled them with stories of the Huk years. Even in his late years, Ka Luis never lost his fire. He was articulate in three languages.

Ka Luis died this week. He would have been 92. At his wake the other night, I saw a picture of his mother beside the coffin. It was a photo taken in 1953, when he met his mother for the first time after he came down from the hills. In my mind's eye, I had imagined his mother, Roberta Mangalus Taruc, to have the same build and appearance as my father's own mother, Epifania. She did look like her. And I am certain it was exactly how my father had pictured her in that crowded courtroom in Pampanga more than 50 years ago. He saw his own mother in her.

Men are lambs in the presence of their mothers. They lose their hardness, and their public stature becomes irrelevant. Think of Jose Rizal and Ninoy Aquino. Think of Ferdinand Marcos and Joseph Estrada. They are children all over again in front of Mama. Before their fathers, they are achievers. But before their mothers, they are nothing but human beings longing to be loved. For all their gentleness, it is mothers who loom as the tough figures in men's lives.

The Nobel laureate Gabriel Garcia Marquez opens his autobiographical work, "Living to tell the tale," with tender recollections of his no-nonsense mother. Every son will easily recognize his own mother in these lines: "Her most conspicuous virtues had been a sense of humor and an iron good health that the sneak attacks of diversity would never defeat over the course of her long life. But her most surprising trait, and also since that time the least likely to be suspected, was the exquisite skill with which she hid her tremendous strength of character: a perfect Leo. This had allowed her to establish a matriarchal power whose domain extended to the most distant relatives in the most unexpected places, like a planetary system that she controlled from her kitchen with a subdued voice and almost without blinking, while the pot of beans was simmering."

My mother was very much like that. She had spent more than half of her life carrying 13 pregnancies, and the other half looking after the myriad needs of her large brood. Yet she found time to regularly visit her relatives and to be active in the local barrio council. And if she had not been ill, I believe she would have gone back to school to finish a degree. My mother had good survival instincts, and her dependable inventiveness saw us through very hard times.

Nature is wise; she blesses women with longer lives. My father was barely 60 when he died. My mother outlived him by a good 20 years. I cannot imagine what kind of life he would have had if it had been the other way around. He would not have known what to do with himself. I can feel my mother's strong influence in our lives especially when I am with my brothers and sisters. Her spirit continues to guide our relations to one another and the way we conduct ourselves in the world.

I've always suspected that perhaps, at the peak of their powers, men think themselves to be ultimately answerable to no one else but their mothers.

* * *

Comments to public.lives@gmail.com

Taming the military

THE MILITARY'S reckless tagging of legal groups as communist fronts, its probable role in the killing, abduction and harassment of political activists, and the continuing possibility of coup attempts not only recall the martial law period. These are also reminders that the military has not changed much, and is still driven by Cold War and authoritarian assumptions.

COMMENTARY

Luis V. Teodoro

Nineteen years after Edsa 1986 and despite the repeal of the Anti-Subversion Law (RA 1700), the Armed Forces of the Philippines still describes materials seized from alleged New People's Army guerrillas as "subversive documents," and militant groups as "subversive organizations."

Military propaganda declares rebellions to be the causes rather than the consequences of poverty, injustice and mass misery. Protests are threats to the state and conspiracies are hatched by evil groups, not legitimate attempts to redress real grievances.

Its Marcos-era views and its own weaknesses shape the military's response to everything—from the participation of party-list groups in elections to local guerrilla activity. In the Philippine countryside, where mass support is essential to the defeat of insurgency, soldiers act like marauding bands. Haphazardly trained, and poorly equipped and supplied because of officer corruption, some rob and beat residents, harass women, and arrest, torture or even kill those they suspect of rebel sympathies.

High-level corruption subverts the AFP's capacity to fight, as well as the very state it protects. But senior officers see no irony in describing certain groups as "legal" but "subversive," and therefore legitimate targets.

Its politicization during the martial law period has been blamed for the military's current state. But the armed forces had been politicized long before 1972. Founded during the American occupation, it was from birth a political instrument for the defense of the new colonial regime and the suppression of the remaining fighters of the Philippine Revolution.

The new regime used the military to curb social unrest and sporadic rebellions. The military also suppressed Moro resistance, and implemented the Christian settlement policy that eventually made Muslims a minority in Mindanao. After 1946, it was focused less on defending the country against external enemies than on dismantling Muslim and other rebel groups. Its officers' commitment to the defense of the economic, social and political order was amply demonstrated during the Carlos P. Garcia presidency, when AFP generals were involved in a plot to oust Garcia should he persist in his Filipino First policy.

By sharing power with its leading officers, Ferdinand Marcos gave the military unprecedented political prominence. But its history had long prepared it for the role it played during the martial law period and after.

A politicized and unreformed military is a perennial threat to democratization. To flourish, democracy needs dissent and criticism as well as the lawful transfer of power via honest elections. The Philippine military has demonstrated its contempt for the former, and through gross partisanship last year, its disdain for the latter.

When Filipinos express fears over military adventurism, they presume that purely military rule would ensue in the event of a coup, but every coup attempt in this country has included a civilian component. Unlike the military establishments of Indonesia, Thailand and Burma (Myanmar), the Philippine military has always relied on civilian patronage. The probable reason lies in its history and the socialization of its officers. The US colonial regime emphasized the dominance of civilian power over the military, and enshrined it in the Philippine Military Academy as a basic principle.

The anti-Garcia coup plot in the 1960s was thus not a purely military conspiracy, but was led by politicians with links to the US Central Intelligence Agency. The military was Marcos' servant and never his master in implementing and consolidating martial rule. Edsa 1986 overthrew Marcos, but demonstrated that the military alone can neither seize nor hold power. Civilian conspirators masterminded the coup attempts during the Aquino presidency. In 2003, the Oakwood mutiny was part of a bigger plot similarly involving, if not masterminded by, civilians.

The killing of activists, the seeming pre-eminence of former and active generals in government, the resurgence of human rights violations, and the martial-law era approach to the Moro and NPA insurgencies have revived speculations that the present government has lost control of the military.

This view assumes that the civilian government has one policy and the military another. But it was a civilian bureaucrat, National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales, who was loudest during the 2004 elections in describing Bayan Muna, Gabriela, Anak Pawis, etc. as fronts of the Communist Party. Echoed in the military's "Knowing the Enemy" briefing, the labeling suspiciously occurred as the killing of activists and community leaders was escalating.

President Macapagal-Arroyo's silence was deafening then, but is even more deafening now. Despite the killing of activists—50 since 2001—and protests over the military's labeling of legal party-list, labor, youth, farmers', workers', fisherfolk, women's, media and church groups as CPP fronts, she has maintained a silence that has been interpreted as approval.

Divided, weakened by corruption, and without strong leaders, the military is easily controlled by its civilian overseers. The Arroyo government is thus able to implement, through the AFP, a policy based on the dual tactics of negotiations and aggressive military efforts against the CPP's "legal machinery."

Criticism of military excesses, short-sightedness and corruption has correctly led to criticism of the Arroyo government and its Marcos-era approach to insurgency, dissent and human rights. Taming the military will require the taming of the civilian bureaucracy.

Luis V. Teodoro is a professor of journalism at the University of the Philippines.

THEY SAID

VAT, of course

"I'm quite sure that this is happening because I'm a strong voice of the opposition. I strongly opposed the passage of the value-added tax, and this is what I get."

—Actor Richard Gomez on being reported by the Bureau of Internal Revenue as a tax-evader.

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TALK of the TOWN

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Editor **Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.**

Workers' pay below living wage

MALACAÑANG and businessmen now acknowledge that workers should get a wage increase in the wake of surging prices. On Labor Day, President Macapagal-Arroyo directed the regional wage boards to determine the wage increase within the month. Addressing employers, the President said: "we must ensure your workers have a decent wage, a decent workplace and a decent life."

Organized workers are demanding an increase of P78 to P125 a day in the minimum wage, which ranges from P170 a day in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) to P300 in Metro Manila.

Even if the regional wage boards approve an increase of P125, minimum wage earners will still receive pay well below the family living wage.

The family living wage as of March was P419 a day in Region VIII, P663 in Metro Manila, and P824 in ARMM, according to the National Wages and Productivity Commission.

The commission says "living wage" is the income needed to provide for the requirements of a family of six to enable it to maintain a decent standard of existence. But it says the living wage refers to the total income of the employed members in the family.

In contrast, Pope John Paul II defined "family wage" in his encyclical on human work ("Laborem Excercens") as "a single salary given to the head of the family for his work, sufficient for the needs of the family without the other spouse having to take up gainful employment outside the home."

Living wage just 1 of 10 criteria in setting pay

By Ciriaco A. Lagunzad III

A few years ago, the National Wages and Productivity Commission (NWPC), in coordination with the National Statistics Coordinating Board (NSCB), conducted a review of the existing methodology for measuring the living wage.

The study had the following objectives: provide an acceptable concept or working definition of a living wage; develop a methodology for the computation of living wage; and present measurements of living wage estimates by region.

The "living wage" was defined as the amount of family income needed to provide for the family's food and nonfood expenditures with sufficient allowance for savings and investments for social security so as to enable the family to live and maintain a decent standard of human existence beyond mere subsistence level, taking into account all of the family's physiological, social and other needs.

Formula

The study developed a methodology for measuring the family living wage (FLW) using three components: food expenditures (FE), nonfood expenditures (NF) and a constant ratio which is derived as the ratio of other disbursements to total family expenditures at the national level.

The formula is: FLW = FE + NE + [10 percent (FE + NF)]

The make up of each component in the formula was reached following a survey by the NSCB, including the 10 percent, which the family sets aside from its total expenditures as savings or investment.

Family of six

The family size used in the estimation of the living wage was six since the NSCB study showed that the poor usually have bigger family size.

Food expenditures cover the three meals that a Filipino family of six eats every day. The average dietary requirement of each family member, including calories and other nutrients, is determined by the Food and Nutrition Research Council.

Nonfood expenditures include rent, clothing allowance, utilities, transportation fare as well as spending for leisure and entertainment.

As of March 2005, estimates of family living wages per day based on the NSCB report reached P663 in Metro Manila, up from P461 in 2000.

Food expenditures were pegged at P190 compared with P160 five years ago while nonfood expenditures rose from P259 to P413.

Muslim region

The Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao has the highest living wage estimate in the country—P830. The lowest is P419, pegged for Eastern Visayas.

The living wage should not be equated with minimum wage. The living wage refers to the total income of the employed members in the family.

Caution should be exercised in the use of the living wage, particularly as standard or base line data for adjusting minimum wages because of possible economic dislocation, especially to small and medium enterprises, although it can be a potent tool for reducing the gap between poverty threshold and family living wage

The family living wage, therefore, is only one of the references of the board in determining whether the minimum wage should be adjusted. More importantly, the board considers the rate of the increase rather than the amount of the living wage, and evaluates whether a corresponding raise in the minimum wage would suffice for the average worker.

The demand for living wages is one of the 10 criteria for minimum wage fixing under Republic Act No. 6727 or the Wage Rationalization Act of 1989.

Others are wage adjustment vis-à-vis the consumer price index; cost of living and changes or increases therein; needs of workers and their families; need to induce industries to invest in the countryside; improvements in standards of living; prevailing wage levels; fair return on the capital invested and capacity to pay of employers; effects on employment generation and family income; and equitable distribution of income and wealth along the imperatives of economic and social development.

It is the various regional tripartite wages and productivity boards that prescribe the minimum wage.

The NWPC, an attached agency of the labor department, is in charge of policy and program coordination. It exercises administrative and technical supervision over the regional boards and may review the wage orders they issued.

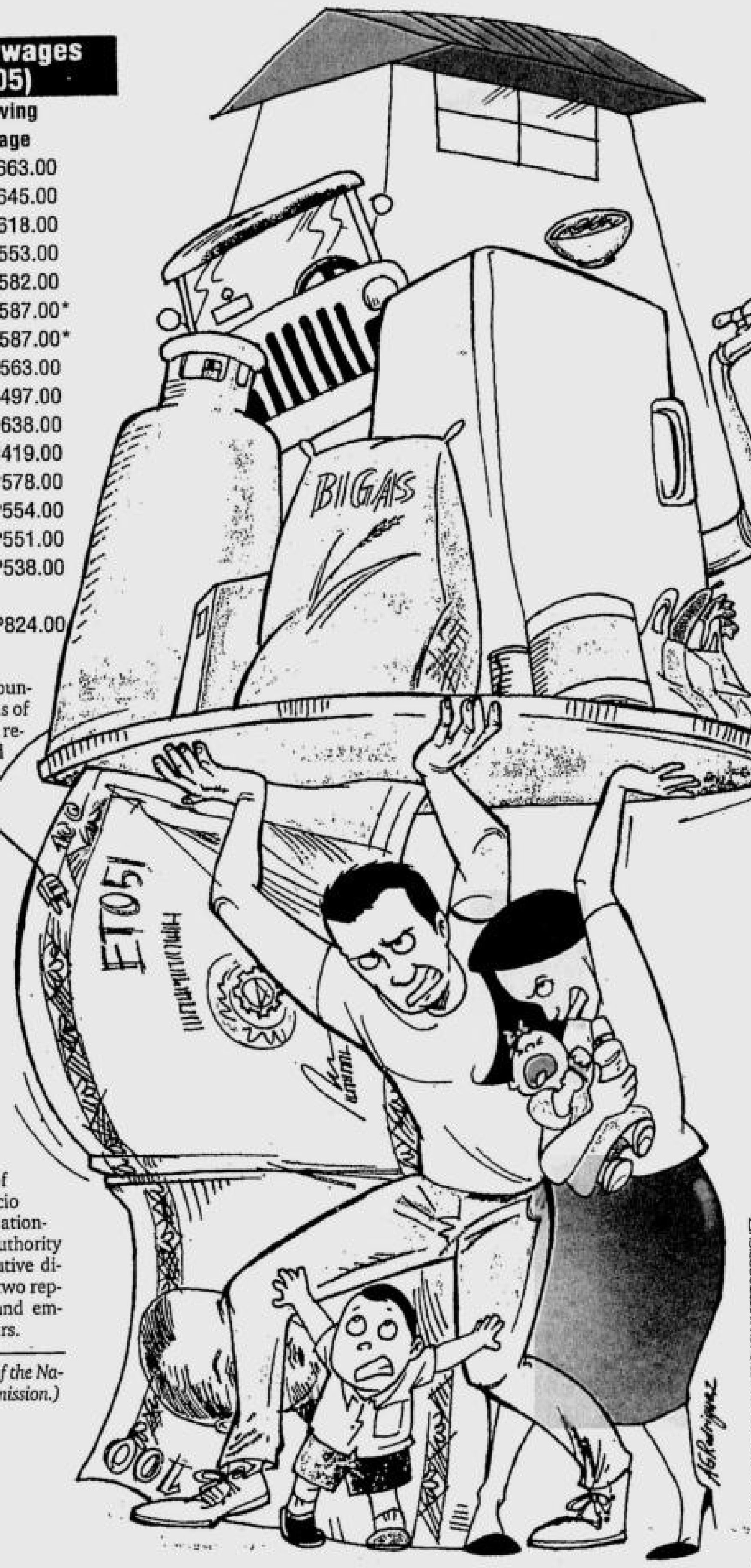
The commission is composed of the labor secretary as ex-officio chair, the director general of the National Economic and Development Authority as ex-officio vice chair, the executive director as ex-officio member, and two representatives from the workers and employers' sectors as regular members.

(Lagunzad is the executive director of the National Wages and Productivity Commission.)

Minimum and living wages (as of March 2005)

Region	Minimum wage	Living wage
Metro Manila	P300.00	P663.00
CAR	P205.00	P645.00
Region I	P200.00	P618.00
Region II	P193.00	P553.00
Region III	P243.50	P582.00
Region IV-A	P255.00	P587.00*
Region IV-B	P196.00	P587.00*
Region V	P194.00	P563.00
Region VI	P190.00	P497.00
Region VII	P208.00	P638.00
Region VIII	P195.00	P419.00
Region IX	P180.00	P578.00
Region X	P202.00	P554.00
Region XI	P209.00	P551.00
Region XII	P200.00	P538.00
Caraga	P189.00	
ARMM	P170.00	P824.00

*Amount is for the whole of Region IV
Source: National Wages and Productivity Commission



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Increases serve as equalizer

By Alex G. Aguilar

Current wage rates are nowhere near the living wages envisioned by the framers of the Philippine Constitution. To be blunt about it, it cannot even provide for decent living standards.

Ideal wages should afford workers and their families not only three square meals a day but also the basic necessities of life like a comfortable home, the capacity to send children to school, basic recreation, some savings, and the assurance of good retirement. People work not only to live but also to enjoy some pleasures of life.

Balance

The concept of living wages should be achieved in stages over time and not in a single swoop. It should be carefully calibrated and should consider the economic conditions. It's a tight balance between the needs of workers and their families, and the capacity of the economy and employers.

The P78-wage petition filed by the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines in Metro Manila is far from that goal. It is a measure to allow workers to cope with skyrocketing prices of services and commodities. It is far from the level that can be described as living wages.

Workers have a thousand reasons for a P78-wage adjustment. The never-ending increases in fuel prices, power and water rates, the cost of education, among others have reduced earnings to a pulp.

Raising wages is not a matter of why. It is a question of when and how much.

The exchange between workers and employers on proposals to raise wage rates is often boring and predictable. Employers shoot down wage proposals like wild ducks.

The ball is in the hands of the 17 Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Boards (RTWPBs). The RTWPB's mandate of issuing wage orders is clearly defined in law.

The Wage Rationalization Act amply provides the criteria and factors the wage boards should consider in their decisions. The prevailing inflation, movements in the consumer price index, needs of workers and their families, regional economic activity and capacity of employers, and the need to induce enterprises in the countryside are some of the most important factors they usually consider.

Distributing wealth

All the right reasons for a wage hike are there. If only the wage boards commit to the spirit of the law, it will not take them long to reach a decision.

One other factor that is forgotten in the discourse is the fact that increasing wages is one of the best ways to distribute wealth. In our country where 10 percent of the population controls 90 percent of the national income, increasing wages is probably the most effective way of ensuring that a larger segment of the population gets a fair share.

Needless to say, wage increases serve as an equalizer in a society where the voices of the poor are seldom heard.

(Aguilar is the spokesperson of the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines.)

Big business, not workers, should do belt-tightening

By Elmer Labog

The need for a substantial wage increase is urgent in the wake of spiraling cost of basic goods and services and the impending tax increases. For decades, the fight for higher wages has become a matter of life and death not only for wage earners but for all Filipinos.

While prices of goods have increased 27 percent since 2000, wages have been pegged to the floor under the Arroyo administration. The minimum wage of P250 in Metro Manila (P300 if we include the emergency cost of living allowance, which is not really part of the basic wage) is less than 38 percent of the "living wage" as estimated by the National Wages and Productivity Commission.

Even if we double the daily wage rates, these would still be short of the P663 necessary to maintain a minimum decent standard of living for a working class family of six.

Thus, raising the daily minimum wages by P125 will bring economic relief and not riches to those who create the nation's wealth. Social justice dictates that workers receive appropriate wages that they need and deserve.

With surging prices, an ordinary wage earner's take home pay is not even enough to buy a decent meal for his family. Sardines and noodles have become the workers' staple food. Rising power and water rates and oil prices will all the more burden the low-paid workforce.

Profits

While working families experience new depths of deprivation, the share of profits in the national income pie has been growing. In 2003 alone, the profits of the country's top 5,000 corporations increased by 66 percent, led by the telecom giants (327 percent) and the multinational mining corporations (388 percent). The Ayalas, for instance, bagged P1.2 million in profits per hour just from Globe Telecom.

Clearly, multinational corporations and the local business elite can afford to pay their workers much more than what they are currently paying. After all, they seem to be the only ones benefiting from imperialist globalization while workers are forced to choose between hellish jobs or hellish unemployment.

That's why big business is forced to dissemble by claiming to have the interests of small entrepreneurs and their workers at heart when they rail against wage increases. In truth, even statistics from the labor department reveal that only 0.2 percent of firms which resorted to retrenchments in 2003 did so because of mandatory minimum wage adjustments while 34.8 percent blamed "lack of demand" as the culprit.

Surveys of business executives have time and time again pointed to other factors behind the country's "uncompetitiveness." The flood of foreign goods due to import liberalization, a constricted market due to mass poverty, corruption, cronyism and state abandonment of its duties, including the provision of adequate physical and social infrastructure, have rendered domestic production more costly and less rewarding compared with trading, finance and dreaming of stardom.

Lip service

President Macapagal-Arroyo's directive to the regional wage boards to decide on wage adjustments within 30 days is mere lip service meant to contain growing restiveness on the labor front. The Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Boards—composed of employers, government and yellow labor representatives—cannot offer redress to workers' wage demands. Workers' welfare is not the overriding consideration in these wage boards but the willingness of big business to shell out crumbs for workers.

Indeed, the Wage Rationalization Act, which created the wage boards seeks to stay the hand of government in ensuring that a national minimum living wage is observed.

It adheres to the principle that wages should primarily be determined through collective bargaining between employers and workers even as less than three percent of wage and salaried workers are actually covered by collective bargaining agreements. Combined with the repressive provisions in the Labor Code such as the assumption of jurisdiction powers of the labor secretary, "wage rationalization" today merely leaves the vast majority of workers at the mercy of capital.

The severe and chronic economic crisis in the Philippines should not be used as a pretext for depressing wages and trampling on workers' rights as the government would have us believe. Rather, the current crisis should compel us to seek structural changes in Philippine society.

(Labog is the chair of the Kilusang Mayo Uno.)

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Germany pledges ₱500B in aid to RP

By Romy G. Amarado
PDI Visayas Bureau

DUMAGUETE CITY—The Federal Government of Germany has renewed its commitment to provide financial and technical support to the Philippines to the tune of Euro 73.3 million, or approximately P531 billion, for poverty alleviation projects consistent with the current Medium Term Philippine Development Plan.

Of the amount, Euro 13 million in fresh funds is intended for Technical Cooperation Program and some Euro 38 million in new commitments for Financial Cooperation Program, to be provided for two years starting this year.

The commitment was articulated by the German delegation in a two-day bilateral negotiation with Philippine government representatives, headed by Rolando G. Tungpalan, National Economic Development Authority (Neda) assistant director general, in Atlantis Beach Resort in Dauin town, 14 km south of here, May 5 and 6.

The German delegation was composed of representatives from the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the German Embassy in Manila, the Federal Ministry of Economic and Labor, the German Development Bank (KfW), the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) and the German Development Service (DED). Christian Neumann of BMZ headed the delegation.

The Philippine delegation was represented by the Neda, Department of Budget and Management, Department of Finance and the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The two sides agreed, among other things, to make the Visayas and Mindanao the regional focus of development assistance.

The priority areas are economic reform and development of market systems; health, nutrition and family planning; combating AIDS and HIV; ecology; and waste management.

Details of the agreement were in a summary of the bilateral negotiations signed by the two parties Friday to cap the event.

Copies of the document, however, were not made available to the media because, according to Neumann, there were matters that need not be publicized.

Neumann said Visayas and Mindanao were considered priority areas because of the high incidence of poverty in these areas.

Neumann said the financial package is both grant and loan. Of the Euro 73.3 million, Neumann said Euro 14 million is grant and the remaining amount is "soft loan."

Neumann said the loan will be payable in 40 years, with 0.75 percent interest rate. Payment will start after a 10-year grace period.

Cops looking for Cantoneros radio colleague

Ryan D. Rosauro
PDI Mindanao Bureau

DIPOLOG CITY—Police said they were trying to locate a former colleague of slain radio commentator Klein Cantoneros because he might have information that could help investigators solve the case.

Chief Supt. Vidal Querol, Western Area Mindanao police chief, said the broadcaster, identified only as Peter The Rock, was "one of the last persons" seen with Cantoneros before he was killed early Wednesday.

He said Peter The Rock had dinner with Cantoneros inside 8 Food Park, a local restaurant, some four hours before at least three suspects shot Cantoneros.

The INQUIRER learned that Peter The Rock co-anchored "Nasud Pagmata Na (Nation, Wakeup Now)" with Cantoneros when it started in 2004.

He left several months later because of alleged threats to his life.

Investigators said Peter The Rock was not a suspect but he might have information that could shed light on the killing.

Querol said police are now "backtracking, which means establishing the flow of events that led to the shooting of Cantoneros, especially the few hours prior to the incident."

Through this, the person or persons that came in contact with the victim would be established and investigators will be guided who to ask for relevant information.

Querol also said investigators would seek information from friends, relatives and colleagues whom Cantoneros might have talked to about threats to his life.

Investigators said they were also trying to get information from at least two drag racers, who passed by as the assailants were shooting at the broadcaster.

Querol said investigators so far learned that only one assailant actually shot at Cantoneros.

He also said the motorcycle used was similar to that used for "motocross racing."

Querol, who appealed for the public cooperation in the investigation, said he has a "strong belief somebody out there witnessed the incident."

Elmer Elmedulan, who anchors another public affairs program over dxAA-FM, said if police wanted to speed up the investigation, it should replace key people whom Cantoneros hit in his commentaries.

Esperat family seeks protection

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—The family of slain journalist Marlene Esperat had sought security from the Department of Justice.

In a mobile phone interview, Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez told the INQUIRER that Valmie Garcia, the victim's sister, went to the DOJ office in Manila asking for protection as she claimed that her life was in danger.

But Gonzalez said he advised Valmie to seek police protection as she would not qualify under the DOJ's witness protection program.

On Wednesday, the victim's sister also sought the help of Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr. for the early resolution of the Esperat murder case.

Gonzalez said Pimentel called him up Wednesday and asked if the DOJ can do something to help expedite the resolution of the case.

Esperat's two children witnessed the killing in their residence in Tacurong City on Maundy Thursday.

The victim's lawyer, Nena Santos, has been working on placing Rynche, 23, and James, 10, under the government's witness protection program.

The four suspects in the killing, including the alleged gunman, had all been captured and were already under the protective custody of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group.

One of the suspects, identified as Rowie Barua, an active intelligence operative of the military who allegedly served as contact man for the masterminds, revealed in his extra-judicial confession who ordered and paid for the murder of Esperat. *Aquiles Z. Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

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DepEd to rid schools of political patronage

BAGUIO CITY—Frustrated by political interference in education, the Department of Education (DepEd) has authorized parents, teachers and local governments to run community-based government schools this coming school year because they have enough influence to defy politicians.

Education Secretary Florencio Abad told the 5th Philippine Elementary School Principals Congress on Monday that political patronage helped install many teachers in the provinces and have tried to control how school funds are implemented in their communities.

Abad said the educational crisis has become enormous because of inefficient teachers. "We are seeing signs that our educational failures are coming back to haunt us as many of our underachieving graduates come back as underqualified teachers seeking to teach in our schools," he said.

"So much bad thinking and wrong information is doing havoc to our society, and we must remind ourselves that all these incompetent Filipinos were students or graduates of our public schools," he added.

Civil service laws make it difficult for government to purge itself of bad teachers, he said, while the huge deficit restricts it from hiring new ones.

President Macapagal-Arroyo has to also address a classroom gap of 51,000 for the year, which can only be solved by making schools open two class shifts.

But Ceferino Cawaon, acting Baguio schools superintendent, said the deficit forces them to offer teachers overtime leave credits instead.

The only option left to government, Abad said, is to transform all government schools into "community-based educational institutions that keep on improving the education they deliver."

He said each school governing council is to be manned by parents, teachers, students, local government representatives as well as members of civic groups devoted to improving education.

Abad admitted that the councils could be challenged in court because these are facsimiles of the local school boards created by the 1991 Local Government Code.

But he said Republic Act 9155, the 2001 Governance of Basic Education Act, grants principals and other school officials this level of autonomy.

The councils will help the principals examine their schools' operations, identify new strategies to make education become more accessible to their children, and find new sources of funding to keep their schools afloat. *Vincent Cabreza with a report from Donna Demetillo, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

ROUNDUP

Cop dies after shooting

DAVAO CITY—A policeman from Manila died after a taxi driver shot him in El Rio Vista Village, Buhangin district here Friday. SPO1 Joseph Limbaco, Buhangin police investigator, identified the slain policeman as SPO2 Leo Cuevas. The taxi driver, identified as Virgilio Bajenting, was also killed when the victim's brother, who is also a policeman, shot him. Limbaco said the victim and his brother were visiting someone in the village. Limbaco said a group of men, that was drinking in a store next to the house they were visiting, invited the victim to join them. He said as Cuevas was approaching, Bajenting, who was also with the group, pulled out a revolver and shot the policeman. The victim's brother, identified as Insp. Gregorio Cuevas Jr. of the Southern Mindanao regional police office, rushed out of the house after hearing gunfire and saw his limping brother. Limbaco said Inspector Cuevas saw Bajenting run, gave him a chase and then shot him. Bajenting died on the spot.

Anthony S. Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Mushroom poisoning

KIDAPAWAN CITY—Five persons, three of them children, were rushed to a government hospital here on Thursday after eating mushroom. Dr. Gil Pabellon, of the President Roxas District Hospital, said the victims suffered severe vomiting, stomach pains, and weakening of the body, all symptoms of food poisoning. Olive Estrope, one of the victims, said they harvested wild mushrooms in a rubber plantation a few meters from their house and cooked it. A few minutes later, the victims felt drowsy.

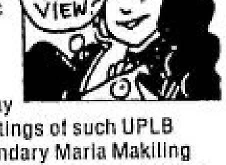
Jeffrey M. Tupas, PDI Mindanao Bureau

NPA denies land mines

SAN MARIANO, Isabela—The New People's Army denied the Army's claim that they used land mines when they attacked Army soldiers in Barangay Minanga here last month. In a statement, the Reynaldo Piñon Command said they used detonated explosives in the ambush that killed 2nd Lt. Arsenio Alipio, Cpl. Antonio Macni, and Pfc. Michael Pagalilauan in Minanga village, and the wounding of Pfc. Diosdado Cabuenas, Pfc. Nestor Versoza and Pvt. Ronald Navarro, all from the Alibadabad Army detachment here.

Villamor Visaya Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

On-the-spot painting


OK BA ANG SIDE VIEW?

THE AGOS Kulay Manila (Watercolor Society of the Philippines) is conducting an on-the-spot painting of scenic attractions at the University of the Philippines at Los Baños (UPLB) campus on May 14. A raffle of the paintings of such UPLB landmarks as the legendary Maria Makiling feeding her animal pets, the *dalagang bukid* gazebo, the gate and its farmer and carabao monument. Tickets are sold and ticket holders are ensured one painting in the raffle. The paintings will be exhibited and the raffle conducted at the residence of Dr. Mario Labadan, a former UPLB professor in College, Laguna. Josie Saddul, president of the UPLB Sigma Beta Sorority Alumnae Association, said her sorority is sponsoring the painting activity as part of its many activities leading to the 50th anniversary celebration in December, according to a news release.

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B'LAAN College Scholars Association president Pammie Malayon presents the position of the tribal scholars and Tampakan Project Area communities at the start of the press conference.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tribes tell mining foes: 'Leave us alone'

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—Village officials and tribal leaders from South Cotabato, Davao del Sur and Sultan Kudarat urged the Catholic Church and antimining groups to stop meddling in their affairs.

During a press conference here yesterday, the tribal leaders and village officials also urged antimining advocates not to hurt and insult them.

Celso Doc, tribal chieftain of Pula Bato Tribal Community in Tampakan, South Cotabato, said they felt slighted when antimining advocates accused them of selling their principles.

"It's painful for us lumad to be accused of selling out ourselves to (Sagittarius Mines Inc.)," Doc said.

"Before, people just get killed for money. Now, with people making money out of the entry of mining, our place has become peaceful. Mining gave us livelihood," said Tonio Binuhay, chieftain of the S'bangken tribal community in Tampakan.

Pammie S. Malayon, president of the Tribal College Student's Association, said they went down the mountains to beg outsiders from the mine area to stop their antimining activities against the Tampakan project.

In a signed manifesto, the students said: "We, the B'laan Student Scholars and Grantees of the B'laan Tribal Foundations and Sagittarius Mines, Inc. (SMI), composed of no less than 1,500 students from their Tampakan project community, hereby manifest our deep concern on the misrepresentation of some individuals and organizations who are non-residents of the project area..."

Moreno Taguialo, South Cotabato provincial tribal adviser, told reporters that the Church should "not ostracize" the B'laans in the area for supporting SMI.

Taguialo, a former seminarian, said the tribals have long suffered but no one came to feed them or liberate them from ignorance.

SMI officials said the company has given about P15 million in annual development assistance to five barangays, five tribal communities and three towns.

The amount is for road maintenance, construction of multi-purpose buildings and livelihood projects.

Rolando Doria, SMI overall project coordinator, said the company has also been providing educational assistance to tribal communities.

Malayon, president of the Tribal College Student Association, said about 1,500 scholars are supported by the company in elementary, high school and college.

Twenty scholars had already graduated from college and are now employed by SMI.

Taguialo, himself a B'laan, said like everybody else, his tribe also want to protect the environment.

"Environmental protection is not the sole concern of the Church. We assure you that we are going to protect our environment by remaining vigilant. But please let us allow SMI to develop the God-given resources in our land," he said.

"They used to take photos of our naked women and children and use these in project proposals to be able to get funds from abroad. But our women and children remained poor and naked. Those funds have never trickled down to us," said Josephine Malid, a leader in one of the most remote villages in Columbio.

Dalina Samling, the woman chieftain of Danlag, summed it up for the five communities: "We have been living in poverty for so long. Now, we see hope in the Tampakan Project under SMI. We are begging these antimining groups to leave us alone and not derail our progress."

Aquiles Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Power from sun reaches villages

PAGALUNGAN, Maguindanao—Residents of three remote villages here welcomed the entry of the solar energy project of the national government in far-flung areas not served by electric cooperative-run firms.

"Thank God, at last we will enjoy the (electric) power that has been deprived of us for so long," said Sainodin Gumla, a farmer with a dozen children.

Some 90 modules of solar cells have been distributed to Barangays Kilangan, Bagoenged and Linandangan to ensure energy generation from the sun, said engineer Raul Agape of the Alliance for Mindanao Off-grid Renewable Energy (Amore) program.

Amore, a non-government organization, has been commissioned by the government in the implementation of its solar-based energy program funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

"The people are happy to know that they will now enjoy free electricity," said Pagalungan Vice Mayor Norodin Matalam.

"They have to maintain and take good care of these solar modules because they are the direct beneficiaries," Matalam told the INQUIRER.

Agape, accompanied by engineering aide Abdul Manalansal, briefed the recipients on the installation and maintenance aspects of the project.

Matalam said the first beneficiary of the solar energy project was Barangay Kalbugan, a village isolated by man-made canals and rivers.

Charlie C. Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau

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INQUIRER Mindanao

Editor Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief Nico A. Alconaba

Ex-MNLF fighters go fishing

By Germelina Lacorte
Glan, Sarangani

ALVECER Garcia, a son of a former fighter of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), was 4 years old when then MNLF Chair Nur Misuari signed a peace pact with the government in 1996 that stemmed decades of armed hostilities in Mindanao.

Now 13, he watches his father Artemio harvest *lapu-lapu* (black groupers) from a fish cage in the middle of the sea.

The groupers, among the high-value exports, are not usually grown by most fisherfolk in this tuna-producing town of Glan, Sarangani.

Last year, Garcia, who heads a cooperative of 50 former MNLF fighters, agreed to a 60-40 sharing arrangement for *lapu-lapu* production with a group of big aquaculture firms in the province.

Alsons Inc., a member of the Chamber of Aquaculture and Ancillary Industries in Sarangani Inc. (Chains) and one of Sarangani's top marine exporters, provided fingerlings to the former combatants who put up the fish cages in the turquoise-blue waters of Burias, facing the Celebes sea.

Like floating huts, the netted cages are set in the depths to allow the fish to thrive in seawater.

Since they embarked on the project, the former MNLF members found themselves fighting a different war.

Garcia talked animatedly how they battled the disease that hit the groupers in the first few months. "I never thought it was that easy," said the son of former MNLF commander Mingkat Gampal.

Garcia was barely 31 when the peace pact was signed. Now in his 40s, he said he could not have cured the lesions on the fish skin on his own.

He said he owed everything to Cary Andigan, one of the aquaculture experts of the US-funded Growth with Equity in Mindanao (GEM), who takes care of GEM projects in the five provinces of Central Mindanao.

FORMER MNLF fighter Artemio Garcia (in red) help haul black groupers from the fish cages. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

"We could have had a failure of harvest," Garcia said.

The aquaculture component of GEM's Targeted Commodities Expansion Program (TCEP), has given low-cost marine technology and encouraged the beneficiaries to diversify to other marine products with high export potential.

Harvest time

After nearly 10 months of waiting, the fighters-turned-fishermen are ready to harvest.

They loaded plastic containers into a motorized pump boat and clambered along its sides as the vessel roared toward the floating hut. Stepping onto the wooden platform, they raised the fish nets and filled the containers with swirling black groupers.

Andigan observed a high survival rate of fingerlings. The four nets yielded more than 70 kilograms of fish, which they chilled with ground ice and brought to Alsons' factory in Alabel town, 27 km away. Alsons, an exporter of canned and chilled fresh black groupers, buys the fish at P280 per kg.

"The peace agreement has brought changes to our lives," says Garcia. "It has brought food to the table, and that is something good for us."

Life was not like this before, he said. Barangay Burias in Glan used to be a depressed area that was inaccessible to people from the town proper because there were no roads.

An amnesty program for Moro rebels during the Marcos regime helped build a dirt road through the mountains leading to the isolated village.

Now, travel time is only an hour and a half from nearby General Santos city, Andigan said.

The women still talked of the dark years of martial law. The Moro people were constantly harassed and discriminated against, forcing them to flee their homes every time government soldiers arrived in their communities.

Even after the MNLF forged a peace pact with the government, there were still reports of occasional skirmishes, no longer with the MNLF forces but with Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) fighters.

On the way to the village, Andigan pointed to one battle site, where a soldier lost his life in 2003, shortly before the latest of the GEM projects took off.

'Bangus' and prawns

The 50 former fighters of the MNLF's Selatan Kutawato Revolutionary State Command are now looking afar to the waters of Burias, a natural spawning area for *bangus* (milkfish).

They set up the White Sand Multipurpose Cooperative to venture into marine production and the polyculture of milkfish and prawns as one of GEM's pilot projects for the TCEP.

Garcia's group raises *bangus* in an eight-hectare fishpond in what Andigan called the modular system of production. Under the system, the fishpond is fertilized to allow mosses to thrive for the fry to feed on. When the fish reach a certain size, they are given commercial feeds.

Their methods somehow improved the taste of *bangus*, and traders are now coming over from the town proper to buy their harvest onsite, said Garcia.

Andigan is now teaching the former fighters about raising high-value marine species for export.

Their initial experiences in growing black groupers will encourage them to go into other species, such as prawns, he said. Prawns can be grown alongside bangus in the pond, he said.

All GEM projects are measured by their potential for trade, particularly exports, investment, jobs, income and profit, to help accelerate economic growth and help bring about lasting peace in Mindanao.

"The projects seek to consolidate the gains of the peace process," says Andigan. "By giving former MNLF fighters the means to earn income, we hope to help them regain their trust in government."

Garcia said the peace agreement with the MNLF was not a total failure after all, despite the clashes in Sulu in recent months and the dissatisfaction among his former comrades.

"Our elders do not approve of the fighting anymore," he said, looking at his son Alvecer as he disembarked from the boat. "It's now a different kind of war," he said.

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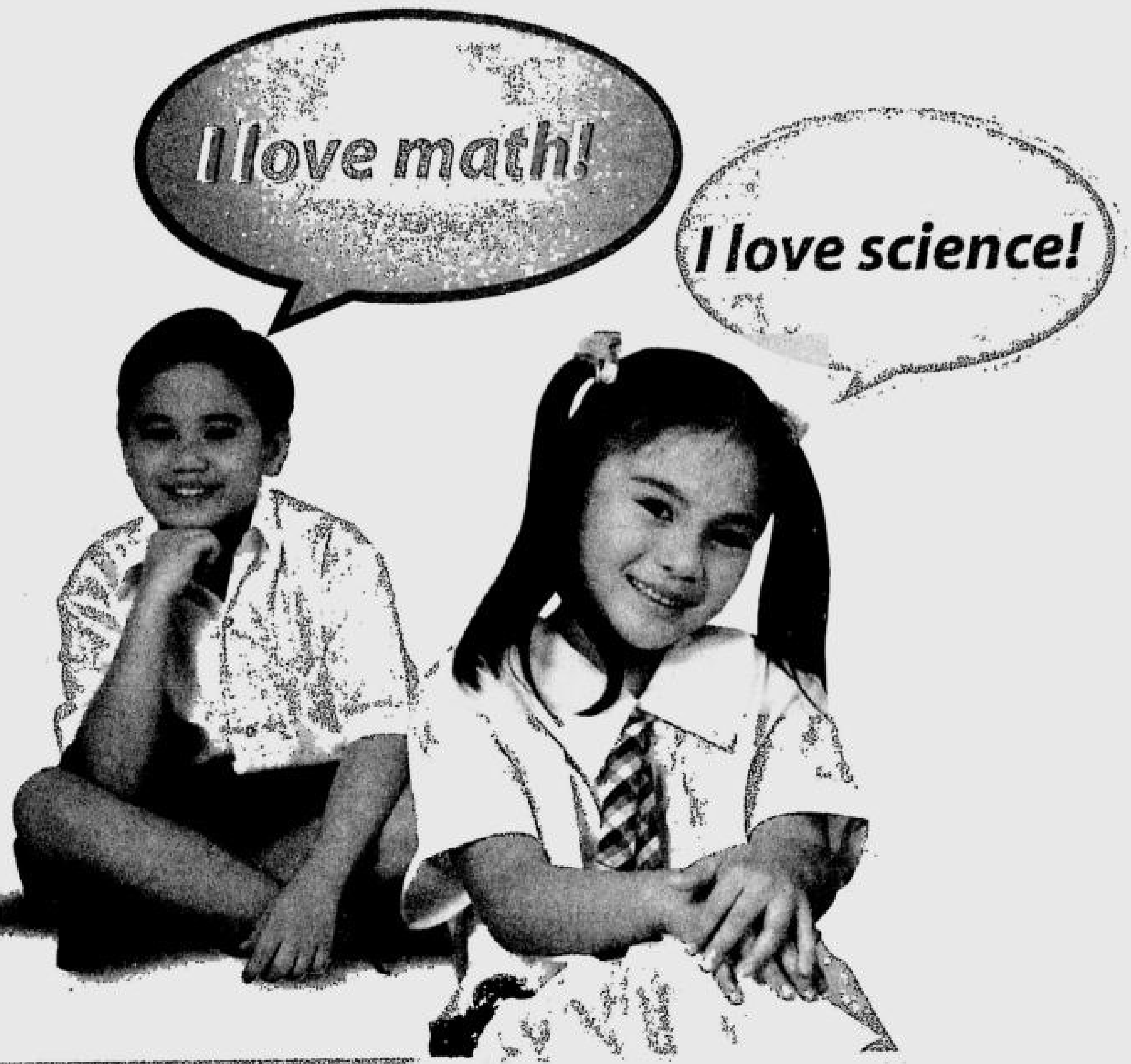
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From page A1

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The recording continues depending on the language you choose.

Only Cabinet secretary

Soliman has recorded her own voice in the department's PABX (Private Automatic Branch Exchange) telephone system, a new feature which not only relays data faster but can handle more telephone calls at the same time.

Soliman is the only Cabinet secretary to have made such a recording.

When asked by the INQUIRER about her unique way of communicating with the public, Soliman said she was pleased that many people had noticed the difference.

She said her colleagues in the DSWD suggested that she record her voice in the PABX when it was being set up in February this year to personalize the department's services.

"You see, people are suspicious of the government. *Ang tingin nila hindi ka maabot. Ang isang* message *na gusto kong maibigay* through the PBAX is *pag-ka*-DSWD, *makakausap mo mismo ang* secretary *kung gusto mo* (People think the government is unreachable. But if you call the DSWD, you can talk to the DSWD secretary herself)," Soliman explained.

Personal touch

Soliman said she had been telling her subordinates to be pleasant when dealing with people and to be more accessible.

"*Kahit sino magtatanong, dapat mayroon kang* (Anyone who asks, you must always have a) personal touch. Part of the service is you have a stake in making the situation better," she said.

Soliman said she could not say if her voice had attracted many callers but she said she knew it had sparked a debate on whether it was a good idea or not.

"I cannot say *kung dumami* (if there are more) callers because I don't monitor," Soliman said with a laugh. "But I know it has made people feel closer to the department."

Susan Argel, chief of the DSWD Social Marketing Department, said some callers were pleased with the voice of the secretary.

'Tiny, squeaky'

Some, however, thought that the secretary's voice was "tiny and squeaky."

Soliman said she would ask her staff to start monitoring the number of callers and how they respond to her voice in the PBAX.

Asked if President Macapagal-Arroyo has heard it, Soliman said, "I don't think so. She does not call me on the DSWD trunkline."

Soliman also said she would always give out her mobile number to anyone who would ask her for it.

Accessible

"I want to show to people that I'm accessible," she said, "that they can call me anytime."

The INQUIRER called the DSWD trunkline and sure enough we were greeted by Soliman's pleasant voice. We followed the prompt, pressed 2 for English and we were presented with another menu: "If you know the local number of the person you wish to call, please dial 9 followed by the local number. If you wish to reach the Crisis Intervention Unit (CIU) press 1. For Travel Clearance Unit press 2. Or please stay on the line or press 0 for operator assistance."

We pressed 0 and waited, wondering if we could actually talk to Soliman herself, or perhaps make an appointment.

"Guard," the voice on the other end answered. It was, after all, a Saturday and Soliman was not in her office.

GMA vows to go after all gov't big spenders

From page A1

Faustino himself.

Faustino said initial findings indicated that these policies were conceived during the three decades that industrialist Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco and his associates were running the CIIF Group.

A UCPB official said that since the coco levy fund had been declared public funds, companies like the CIIF Group should also be governed with social prudence as these assets belonged to the coconut farmers.

White paper

Faustino said that, according to preliminary findings, a white paper alleging lavish spending by CIIF officials was "maliciously" written but that it should also be looked into as well.

The white paper had been circulated within the CIIF and sent to the Presidential Commission on Good Government through electronic mail.

The e-mail indicated it was sent from an address supposedly belonging to a "Riz Ambanta."

Rizal Ambanta is currently the auditor of CIIF Oil Milling Co.

Who sent the e-mail?

The INQUIRER tried to reach Ambanta but a staffer in his office said he was at a meeting. CIIF's designated spokesperson Antonio V. Concepcion said Ambanta did not write the e-mail.

Concepcion said the CIIF was trying to determine who might have been using Ambanta's Yahoo address to send the disputed e-mail.

Yorac letter

"It has been sent thrice and we believe that the writer of this e-mail should be the one sought," Concepcion added.

The investigating committee is now coordinating with each company-affiliate and has asked each one to submit all policies for review.

The intention is to change which practices might be promoting lavish spending, Faustino said.

"We have been conducting the assessment and consultations after we received Ms [ex-PCGG chief Haydee] Yorac's letter to the UCPB board chair on April 27," Faustino said.

Separate boards

Faustino explained that each company in the CIIF Group—the CIIF's Oil Milling Group, United Coconut Chemicals Inc. and the United Coconut Farmers Life Assurance Corp. (Cocolife)—had a separate designated set of directors.

"This is one of the changes set by former PCGG chairperson Yorac. Before, it used to have an interlocking set of directors, meaning there were the same set of representatives in all the governing boards of each company. This had been prone to abuse," he said.

Faustino said that Yorac deemed it necessary for each governing board to have different members. However, as a consequence, each CIIF affiliate is now not required to report periodically to the UCPB but to the PCGG, and performance monitoring has not been done extensively, Faustino said.

Faustino said that since the controversy over alleged lavish spending by some CIIF officials came out, the PCGG has required that the UCPB chair sit as a director in each CIIF affiliate.

GMA's order

Ms Arroyo has ordered Budget Secretary Emilia Boncodin to assess the compliance of board directors in government-owned and -controlled corporations (GOCCs), government financial institutions (GFIs) and other government corporate entities (OGCEs) with her austerity directive last year.

"If there are any to have been found to have violated guidelines as she [Boncodin] enunciated, then I will ask her to take administrative action against them," Ms Arroyo told reporters in Cebu.

She said she wanted the review to focus primarily on the spending ways of board directors who she felt were more expendable than the professional managers who run the GOCCs, GFIs and OGCEs.

Distinction drawn

"I'm strict with the members of the board as compared with the professional line managers," she said. "I'm very careful that I will not reduce the compensation of professional managers or the president of the company's otherwise [they will go back] to the private sector."

She added: "The members of the boards, they don't need things like that [big perks], unlike a CEO and an EVP or SVP, who grew up in a government corporation and they deserve the compensation because that is their career."

A private entity

It is unclear if Golez was covered by the President's austerity directive—Administrative Order 103—because the trustee of the coco levy funds is considered a private company, according to Boncodin.

"Technically, the CIIF is not covered by AO 103 because it is a private entity. But the court ruling on the coconut levy funds may have changed that although the details are not clear-cut," Boncodin said.

Boncodin added in a later text message to the INQUIRER: "But since CIIF is in trust for its beneficiaries, it should exercise prudence. Besides, they should follow the presidential directive on austerity."

If Golez is a presidential appointee, "he has to follow the President, including her austerity directive," Boncodin said.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye earlier said the CIIF was not covered by the Commission on Audit because it was considered a private company holding public funds.

The President issued AO 103 in August directing all public entities to adopt strict austerity measures, such as the suspension of local and foreign travels, the purchase of new vehicles and media ads, trainings and seminars, the creation of new positions, parties and sports events, and donations and grants.

Public resistance

AO 103 also called for the reduction by at least 10 percent of consultants and contractual employees, and cuts on fuel, water, power and office supply costs.

AO 103 was meant to show the public that the government was doing all it could to cut costs while calling for new taxes to solve the fiscal crisis.

Alleged continued violations of the AO, however, had contributed to public resistance to new taxes.

This was the reason Malacañang reiterated last month that AO 103 was still in effect, as the rising prices of oil, electricity, transport fares and basic commodities made Ms Arroyo's tax reform agenda a harder sell to the public.

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NBI: Suspect in Ramos slay has confessed

By Tina G. Santos

A PEDICAB driver has confessed to being one of four men who entered the house of slain Foreign Affairs Assistant Secretary Alicia Ramos and is now in custody, the National Bureau of Investigation said.

NBI Director Reynaldo Wycoco said the suspect, identified by the police as Joel C. Ablay, 24, had provided leads that agents were already checking.

With the surfacing of the suspect, the NBI is now inclined to pursue robbery as the motive behind the killing of Ramos.

"He has admitted his participation and has told us much," said Wycoco, referring to the suspect.

The NBI director added, "We have identified the group that carried out the crime. From what he told us, robbery was the motive behind it."

The suspect was arrested Thursday night by a joint team of the NBI and the police in a raid in Rodriguez, Rizal.

Ablay identified his cohorts as "Jun," "Michael" and "Obet." The latter is supposed to be the nickname of one Roberto Lumagui, the alleged mastermind, according to National Capital Region Police Office chief Deputy Director General Avelino Razon Jr.

Razon said Ablay claimed to have received P700 as his part of the loot taken from the Ramos residence.

The other articles taken from the house included two cameras and a cell phone, which the group had asked another person to sell, the suspect said, according to Razon.

Drinking spree confession

Wycoco said that a few days after Ramos was found dead, the suspect joined a drinking spree.

"The suspect wept and admitted taking part in the crime. His drinking buddies told the NBI," he said.

At first, Wycoco said the NBI was suspicious, but a series of follow-up and verification operations confirmed the suspect's story.

He said NBI agents were working with police on verifying the other leads given by Ablay.

Wycoco refused to divulge other details, saying it might jeopardize their ongoing operations.

However, some of the claims of the NBI's suspect appear to conflict with the testimony of Ramos' sister, Leticia, the only other person with the victim at the time of the murder.

Leticia told police that she saw six suspects at the time of the killing last April 24.

Four men, according to Leticia, entered their house at 5552 Boyle St., Barangay Palanan, Makati City, while two others stayed outside.

Ablay told the NBI that there were only four of them.

Another seeming contradiction are the lists of items taken from the victim's house.

In the "partial" list provided by Leticia to police, she said missing from her sister's room were a Rolex watch, an undetermined amount of jewelry, and two cellular phones.

Ablay mentioned two cameras and one cell phone.

Dog lovers re-route traffic in Manila

THE WESTERN Traffic Enforcement Group (WTEG) has advised motorists bound for or passing through Manila to take alternative routes as thousands of canine lovers and their pets are expected to converge on the city today in a bid to break the world record for the largest dog walk.

Supt. Florendo Campo Quibuyen, chief of operations and traffic division of the WTEG, said the southbound lane of Roxas Boulevard, from Quirino Avenue to T.M. Kalaw, would be closed to traffic starting 5 a.m.

Southbound

All southbound vehicles coming from Bonifacio Drive and the pier zone intending to use Roxas Boulevard may turn left at P. Burgos, right at Maria Orosa, right at T. M. Kalaw, left at M.H. Del Pilar to their destination.

Southbound vehicles from Jones, Quezon and McArthur bridges may go straight to Taft Avenue.

Southbound vehicles from the Intramuros and City Hall areas may take Gen. Luna to Palacio Street, straight to Maria Orosa, right at T.M. Kalaw, left at M.H. Del Pilar to their destination.

Canine club

Philippine Canine Club Inc. president Byron San Pedro said they were targeting around 3,000 participants in Manila alone and 5,000 participants nationwide.

The nationwide "Dog Walk for a Cause (Luv ko c Bantay)" will try to break the world record set by the Great North Dog Walk held in June last year at the Gypsies Green Stadium, The Leas South Shields, England. A total of 5,017 dogs and their owners participated in that event.

San Pedro said the dog walk would be an opportunity for all canine lovers in the country to protest the senseless cruelty to and indiscriminate slaughter of dogs. *Tina G. Santos*

Marikina setting up one-stop job market

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

NEED workers? Or need jobs?

Residents of Marikina City can look forward to dropping by the Labor Market which will be a one-stop shop where employers looking for workers and jobless residents looking for jobs can meet.

Just like vendors displaying their wares, skilled residents can register at the Labor Market.

And just like buyers, employers can ask the Labor Market for workers should they need some.

The market will have a database listing all professionals and skilled workers in the city.

Unemployed

There will also be a list of all unemployed residents.

Mayor Marides Fernando said there would be seminars and training on various skills at the market.

"While waiting for employment, (jobseekers) will be educated," Fernando said.

The seminars and training will also be open to jobless residents who want to learn skills they could later use for their livelihood.

Everybody employed

"We want everybody in Marikina City to have a job," the mayor added.

The market will maintain a pool of manpower which will be available to employers.

If they need workers, employers can call the Labor Market which will then match them with jobseekers with the corresponding skill.

The building for the Labor Market will be completed in six months.

"But we will start the project even if the building is not yet finished," Fernando said.

The market is a joint project of the city and the party-list group Partido Manggagawa.

Fake inspectors roam streets of Caloocan City

By Nancy C. Carvajal

BEWARE of fake inspectors.

That was the warning of Caloocan City Mayor Enrico Echeverri to businessmen after he received reports that still unidentified persons were pretending to be City Hall employees and collecting fees.

"Fake inspectors were able to extort up to P3,000 from unsuspecting business owners," said the mayor.

Echeverri said the con artists were claiming to be from the Business Permits and Licensing Office (BPLO) and were doing the rounds and inspecting businesses in remote areas of the city, particularly Caloocan north and Barangay Bagong Barrio.

"The victims were usually small businesses that had failed to secure permits from City Hall," Echeverri noted.

According to the mayor, small entrepreneurs are easy targets of syndicates because they are also known to operate without having the necessary documents.

He advised business owners, particularly those with small shops, to ask for identification cards and immediately verify from the BPLO the identities of the supposed inspectors.

To stop the illegal activity and to prevent any confusion, Echeverri urged business owners to refrain from giving money to anyone claiming to be from the BPLO.

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Answer: Shingles look distinctive, give a natural look, and provide the architectural style desired for the house. In one word, aesthetics.

"What in shingles can defeat this goal?"

Answer: Through the years, algae can infect the roof in highly humid areas.

"What happens to roofs infected with algae?"

Answer: Roofing materials that are exposed to high humidity get discolored and stained. This is true not only for shingles but also for other types of roofs.

These dark stains are algae growth. They can cover the entire roof after some years and make the roof look ugly indeed.

"How do we prevent algae from attacking the roof?"

Answer: To eliminate algae growth, CertainTeed produces Algae Resistant (AR) shingles.

"How are shingles made algae resistant?"

Answer: Shingle surfaces are covered with ceramic granules to give color.

In AR shingles, these granules are embedded with copper oxide. The copper leaches gradually over time, especially when it rains, and kills algae organisms that come in contact with shingles.

With this protection, CertainTeed AR shingles help maintain the natural beauty, color and distinctive appeal of your roof for years.

"Why is it worth your money to invest in AR shingles?"

Answer: An important part in the appeal of your house comes from your roof. It represents more than 50% of its exterior.

A roof that is unprotected from algae attack suffers more than discoloration. The roof is stained and loses its beauty and natural look.

"Instead of buying AR shingles, may we just apply paints with algicide on shingles?"

Answer: Paints with algicide may apply well on concrete and metal roofs without side effects. But their chemical composition may damage the integrity and performance of asphalt shingles.

"Do shingle manufacturers provide warranties on roofs coated with algicide paints?"

Answer: Because of the possible harm on the asphalt, asphalt shingles manufacturers will withdraw the warranty on their roofing material applied with such paints.

"Does algicide coating of shingles offer long term solution to algae attacks?"

Answer: Application on shingles of paints with algicide offers dubious protection from algae attacks.

These paints are brushed on the exterior of ceramic granules. With the direct exposure of the roof to heat, cold, wind and rain, the paint may peel and wash off the granules, unlike the AR shingles' copper oxide which is embedded within the ceramic granules.

"What models of CertainTeed are Algae Resistant (AR)?"

Answer: The following shingle models have algae resistance with a warranty of 10 years: CT20 AR and Landmark AR Series. The following have a warranty of 15 years: Grand Manor, Carriage House, Presidential Shake, Landmark TL.

"But your AR shingles may be more expensive than others."

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Mary takes pilgrims to Antipolo

By Jocelyn R. Uy and Fe Zamora

ON ORTIGAS Avenue in Metro Manila, 20 shrines will be built to mark the trail to one of the country's historic pilgrimage sites.

The Way of Mary Rosary Shrines for Peace, featuring the 20 mysteries of the Holy Rosary, would be erected all the way to Antipolo City, whose patroness, Our Lady of Peace and Good Voyage, draws pilgrims twice a year.

The brown image of Mary was brought to the Philippines from Mexico in 1626, together with the Black Nazarene.

Now enshrined in the Antipolo Church, it was conferred the title *Nuestra Señora de la Paz y Buen Viaje* (Our Lady of Peace and Good Voyage) for the safe return of ships sailing to Acapulco, Mexico, at the height of the galleon trade.

ARTIST Nemesio Miranda Jr. explains his work on The Annunciation, the first mystery of the Holy Rosary, which along with the last mystery, Mary's crowning as queen of heaven and earth, has been installed along The Way of Mary.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sea of humanity

Every April 30, eve of the Antipolo May Festival, the 14-kilometer road to the city is flooded with a sea of humanity. Pilgrims from all points of Metro Manila walk to the shrine carrying the brown image.

The number of pilgrims grows all the way to the hilltop church. Even before midnight, Ortigas Avenue and Sumulong Highway become almost impassable for motorists.

The pilgrimage, known today as the "Alay Lakad," started before World War II erupted, Louie Reyes, a Marian devotee and acting spokesperson of The Way of Mary project, told the INQUIRER.

Frightened that the war would destroy the image, the townsfolk transferred it to Angono, Rizal, then later to Quiapo, Manila.

After the war, the image was brought home to Antipolo.

"It was on April 30 that people walked to Antipolo from Quiapo to return the image to its home," Reyes said.

Reenactment

The annual Alay Lakad is a reenactment of the homecoming of the brown Virgin.

Three years ago, retired Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin noted that the real essence of the pilgrimage was lost on the younger generation, Reyes said.

"*Naging pasyalan na lang,*" Reyes said.

Sin, a Marian devotee himself, told Reyes to distribute rosaries during the Alay Lakad to encourage pilgrims to pray the rosary as they walked.

A few days later, the cardinal had another idea: Build shrines, one for each mystery of the Holy Rosary, all the way to the Antipolo cathedral.

Reyes said they would promote the pilgrimage as "Ang Banal na Paglalakbay," instead of Alay Lakad, which has been politicized and linked to fundraising campaigns.

The dream of turning busy Ortigas Avenue into a simpler version of Spain's Compostela pilgrimage route to the shrines of St. James the Apostle and the Lourdes, became a reality after three and a half years.

One of the things Reyes had to resolve was funding for 20 shrines.

Solution

The solution came late last year when his friend, Joe Magsaysay, a fellow Marian devotee, offered to help.

Then, other Marian devotees pooled talent and resources to get the project going.

The shrines, each costing P300,000-P500,000, will rise on 21-square foot lots, some on private land.

Each, showing in bas relief the 20 mysteries of the Holy Rosary, will be mounted on a pedestal 6 feet wide, 12 feet high and 2 feet thick designed by architect Joey Amistoso, who did the new majestic altar Retablo of the Antipolo Cathedral.

Front panels would have the scripture and mysteries in Filipino.

Angono-based muralist and sculptor Nemesio "Nemiranda" Miranda Jr. was commissioned to sculpt the images on steel and concrete.

Miranda also did the Edsa II and the 1986 People Power revolution murals on the walls of the Edsa Shrine.

The 20 shrines will link two historic churches: the Edsa Shrine, starting point of the chain of shrines, and the Antipolo Cathedral.

The Retablo mural, backdrop of the altar of the Antipolo Cathedral, was a recent work.

God's chosen

"God must have chosen me, that's what they are telling me," Miranda told the INQUIRER.

The images in the shrines would come purely from his imagination, he said, embodying his own art philosophy, imaginative figurism.

"I would make the [images] simple. I want them to be easily understood and remembered because people are moving around," he added.

Color-coding will used to, among other things, guide pilgrims and passersby, Miranda said.

He was optimistic the project would be completed in time for Sin's birthday on Aug. 30 or on Sept. 8, birthday of the Virgin Mary.

On Wednesday, the first shrine, The Annunciation, from the Joyful Mysteries, was unveiled with Sin, former President Corazon Aquino and Antipolo Bishop Gabriel Reyes present.

During the unveiling, Bishop Reyes said, "The [shrines] along the stretch of Ortigas Avenue was precisely where we want our Blessed Mother to be, among the people, visible to all, reminding them of the presence of Jesus and Mary in their midst."

The Way of Mary shrines, he added, not only was the road to Antipolo but also showed how Mary lived a life that was worth emulating.

Pleased

In a rare appearance, Sin, though looking weak and pale, smiled in approval as he viewed the bas relief image showing an angel bringing the Virgin Mary the news that she would be the Mother of the Savior.

The image is mounted on a six-foot pedestal at the side of the shrine of Our Lady of Peace on Edsa.

"Cardinal Sin really is the inspiration for all of this," Aquino said.

"This is the wish of the Cardinal. This is what he had always wanted us to do," Miranda told the INQUIRER.

The artist said the shrines would be built on the right side of the road.

The Way of Mary will pass through the cities of Mandaluyong, Pasig and Antipolo.

MMDA ready for legal war

By Tarra V. Quismundo

WE WILL fight all the way.

Standing by the legality of its traffic programs, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) said yesterday that it was ready to climb the judicial hierarchy to appeal the injunction which the Makati court issued against two of its traffic schemes.

"We are filing a partial motion for reconsideration [in Makati] at the soonest possible time, and within the 15-day period allowed for us to file an appeal," said lawyer Emmanuel de Castro, MMDA Legal Services chief.

De Castro yesterday said his office and the agency's counsel from the Office of the Solicitor General were bent on appealing Wednesday's decision of Makati Regional Trial Court Branch 145 Judge Cesar Santamaria, which voided the Metropolitan Traffic Ticketing (MTT) scheme and the No-Contact Traffic Apprehension (NCTA) scheme.

Transport groups favored

Santamaria earlier favored the petition of nine transport groups that complained about the two schemes.

The judge declared the NCTA unconstitutional for depriving errant drivers due process, and the MTT illegal because it was without the approval of the Metro Manila Council.

If the lower court would not soothe the agency's legal sore, De Castro said the MMDA might again run to the Supreme Court for a remedy.

Unless they stop questioning the lower court decision, said the lawyer, the MMDA would continue implementing the two schemes, as he was confident that the status quo would prevail pending the outcome of the reconsideration plea.

Frustrated homicide charges readied against 3 SWAT men

By Nancy C. Carvajal

ONLY ONE of the three members of the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team was found positive of gunpowder nitrates, but all of them would be charged with nine counts of frustrated homicide and malicious mischief, a police investigator said.

"Only PO2 Pedro Reyes was found to have gunpowder burns on his hands, but charges would still be filed against (the three of) them," said officer on case SPO1 Raymond Mendoza.

The three SWAT members underwent paraffin testing to determine who among them opened fire at the FX van they mistook as the getaway vehicle of robbers that hit a bakery in Caloocan City.

The investigator added that they were just waiting for the estimated cost of the bullet-riddled van for them to file the case against Reyes and other Police Officers 2 Rodelio Ramos and Rigor Lyasol.

"We will file the case as soon as the cost of the damages to the van is submitted," the investigator said.

The cost of the damage to the vehicle was material to the malicious mischief charge against the lawmen.

He added the cost should come from any of the Buera and Bagtas families who were inside the van when fired upon.

The cops allegedly opened fire on a van while it was refueling at a gasoline station along C-3 road in Navotas.

The van was carrying 11 persons, including a 5-year-old girl, while on its way to an excursion in Laguna.

According to the victims, the policemen never tried to check on the occupants of the vehicle.

After the shooting, upon realizing that they had shot the wrong van, the three lawmen reportedly just left without saying a word to the victims.

The members of the SWAT team were pursuing a group of suspects riding in a similar vehicle after robbing a bakery in Caloocan City minutes before the shooting incident took place.

PUBLIC SERVANT
Nacionalista Party president Sen. Manny Villar is flanked by his son, Paolo, and daughter, Camille, after the Polytechnic University of the Philippines conferred upon him an honorary doctorate in Public Administration.

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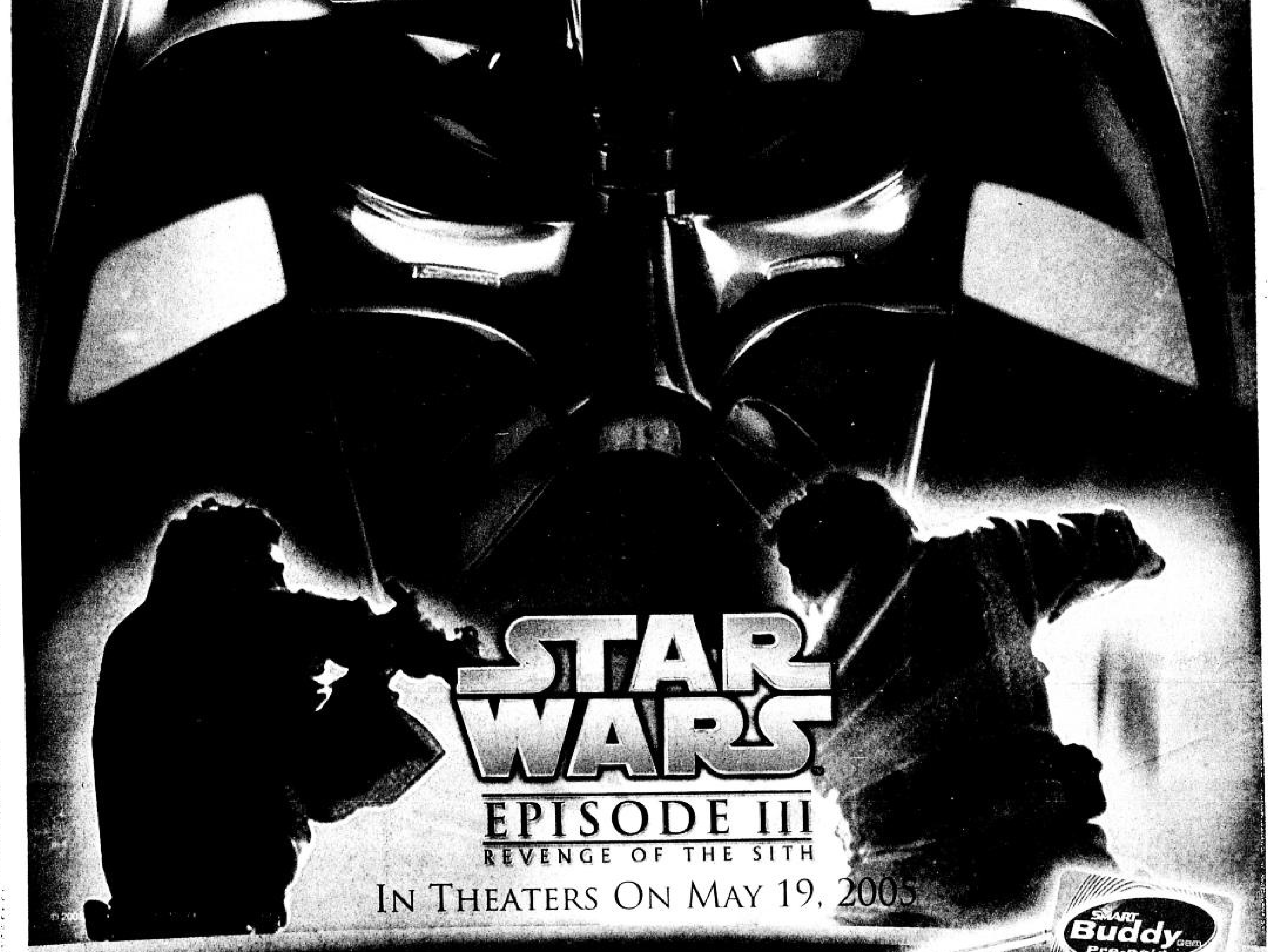
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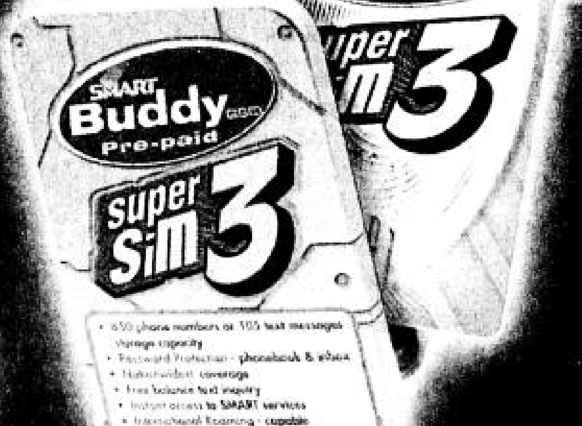
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Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres

BACCHUS boosts quarterfinals bid with its victory yesterday. AUGUST DELA CRUZ

Toyota Otis trips Welcoat

GAMES TUESDAY (*Pasig Sports Center*)
2 p.m.—Granny Goose vs. Welcoat
4 p.m.—Bacchus vs. Montana

By Musong Castillo

TOYOTA Otis-Letran played catch-up in the first half before scooting away with one torrid run in the fourth quarter for an 80-66 victory over Welcoat yesterday that boosted its outright semifinals bid in the PBL Unity Cup.

Mark Macapagal hit six of his night-high 20 points in a 16-1 blitzkrieg in the middle of the fourth as the Knights won for the fifth time in eight games.

Welcoat, which led in the early part of the match, took its second loss also in eight games and dropped to second place behind idle Montana's 7-1 card.

Bacchus kept its quarterfinal hopes alive earlier, nipping Nenaco-San Beda, 69-65.

The scores:

First Game

BACCHUS 69—Vizcarra 13, Epondulan 11, Abadia 11, Te 9, Cordero 8, Holper 6, Nailon 5, Butel 4, Cruz 2, Coyukang 0, Uy 0.

NENACO-SAN BEDA 65—Javier 19, Almajai 16, Angeles 10, Razon 8, Hudencial 3, Fasano 3, Soriano 2, Arbole 2, Cruz 2, Tinonera 0, Antonio 0, Maggay 0.

Quarters: 17-19, 31-36, 50-47, 69-65.

Second Game

TOYOTA OTIS-LETRAN 80—Macapagal 20, Coronel 10, Alcaraz 10, Daa 9, Oreta 8, Andaya 6, Enrile 4, Capati 4, Pinera 3, Bautista 2, Larong 2, Rodriguez 2.

WELCOAT 66—Najorda 16, Washington 15, Ortiguerra 8, Tan 6, Sagad 6, Coching 4, Sta. Maria 4, Gamboa 3, Dy 2, Guevarra 2.

Quarters: 18-23, 34-36, 62-55, 80-66.

Suspension of 20 Fil-Ams stuns coaches

By June Navarro

CONE

BANAL

SHOCKED, surprised, confident, hopeful and saddened. These were among the range of emotions that hit Philippine Basketball Association coaches yesterday, a day after the league office ordered the freezing of 20 foreign-bred players for their failure to complete requirements needed to prove their Filipino lineage.

One of those nurturing a little hope was Alaska coach Tim Cone, whose Aces play on Wednesday, giving them two days to solve what seems to be the biggest problem among affected teams.

Alaska lost six players—Joachim Thoss, Jeffrey Cariaso, Willie Wilson, Rob Johnson, Eugene Tejada and Don Allado—because of the ruling.

"Hopefully, they will be able to come up with the requirements by Wednesday," said Cone. Alaska plays Red Bull on Wednesday and the Barako are among those unaffected by the ruling, having already lost Davonn Harp and Mick Pennisi earlier.

Shell lost Tony dela Cruz, Kalani Ferreria and Chris Jackson, but in terms of quality, the second hardest hit may be San Miguel, which lost Danny Seigle and Dorian Peña. Seigle is the team's top scorer while Peña is the Beermen's top post player because Danny Ildefonso's nursing an injury.

"It's what the ruling is and we will abide with it," said San Miguel coach Jong Uichico. "Although I have to admit I am quite surprised because we already submitted our papers long before the deadline passed."

"I guess there still is a difference between what we submitted and what we are asked to submit again and that's what we have to find out so we can complete the requirements."

San Miguel and Shell play today against the two other teams unaffected by the league ruling—Sta. Lucia for the Beermen and FedEx for the Turbo Chargers. The Realtors and the Express have a homegrown core of players.

Unlike Alaska, San Miguel and Shell do not have the benefit of completing their papers on time since the suspensions came, curiously, going into a weekend, when there is no work.

Of the 27 foreign-bred players, only seven were cleared, namely, Coca-Cola's John Arigo, Ali Peek and Rob Wainwright; Harvey Carey of Talk 'N Text; Alaska's Brandon Cablay; Mike Hrabak of Purefoods and San Miguel's Nic Belasco.

Eric Menk, James Wallkvist and Andy Seigle will also be out of commission for Barangay Ginebra, but not until after the Kings played Purefoods in Palawan last night. The suspensions take effect only today. Coca-Cola lost Rafi Reavis and Will Antonio. Purefoods lost Noy Castillo.

Ginebra coach Siot Tanquingcen and Shell's Leo Austria could not be reached for comment.

"I'm saddened by the news not only for my team but for the league as well," said Coca-Cola coach Eric Altamirano.

"I have yet to receive a formal advice," was all Purefoods coach Ryan Gregorio said.

The suspension of Jimmy Alapag will be a big blow for the Phone Pals but coach Joel Banal is quite confident his court general could satisfy the requirements in no time.

"I guess you have already seen Jimmy's parents," said Banal. "Both are full-blooded Filipinos."

"To me, it's just a minor problem that Jimmy has to solve and I'm confident he can produce the necessary documents needed," he added.

Purefoods beats Ginebra

KERBY Raymundo powered Purefoods to a thrilling 91-85 victory over crowd-favorite Barangay Ginebra in the 2005 Gran Matador PBA Fiesta Conference at the Puerto Princesa Coliseum last night.

Raymundo sneaked in six straight decisive points in the final two minutes that caught the Gin Kings by surprise and broke a deadlock-laden finale as the TJ Hotdogs marched to their sixth win in 13 games.

While coach Ryan Gregorio and the TJ Hotdogs bounced back from a 95-86 defeat against the Coca-Cola Tigers, the Gin Kings suffered a sixth straight debacle, the longest since coach Siot Tanquingcen took over in the same conference last year.

The Kings, champions the past two tournaments, suffered their eighth loss in 13 games.

Meanwhile, gunning for a share of the lead seems to be the least of San Miguel's concerns nowadays. Especially since the indefinite suspension of two key stars runs straight into a torrid schedule of the Beermen.

"We're really concerned about the tough schedule that lies ahead," said San Miguel coach Jong Uichico.

The Beermen play four games in the next 10 days starting with their match against Sta. Lucia at 6:35 p.m. today in the Gran Matador PBA Fiesta Conference at the Makati Coliseum.

And they will do so without Danny Seigle and Dorian Peña, two players suspended because of incomplete citizenship requirements *(See related story on this page)*.

Shell clashes with the FedEx Express in the 4:15 p.m. curtain-raiser.

June Navarro

RECAH Trinidad's response to First Gentleman Mike Arroyo's challenge over the MGM villa issue will come out in his Bare Eye column tomorrow.

Mikola takes AF3 pole

GUANGDONG, China—Taking the best his challengers could muster, Indonesian series leader Ananda Mikola took pole position by a hairline Saturday morning and will go into round three of the Asian Formula Three Grand Prix as the driver to beat at the Zhuhai International Circuit here.

Mikola, however, braced for an expected four-cornered race despite fighting off the tough challenge put up by defending champion Christian Jones of Australia, James Winslow of Great Britain and Dado of the Philippines in the qualifying session.

Racing for Fastron Racing Threebond, Mikola logged the fastest time of one minute and 33.345 seconds to fend off Jones, lead driver of Christian Jones Motorsports, who checked in at 1:33:482.

After submitting conservative clocking in practice runs on Thursday and Friday, Winslow, of Shell Helix Kinetic PCSO, finally made his move, clocking 1:33:487 and setting his sights for another podium finish.

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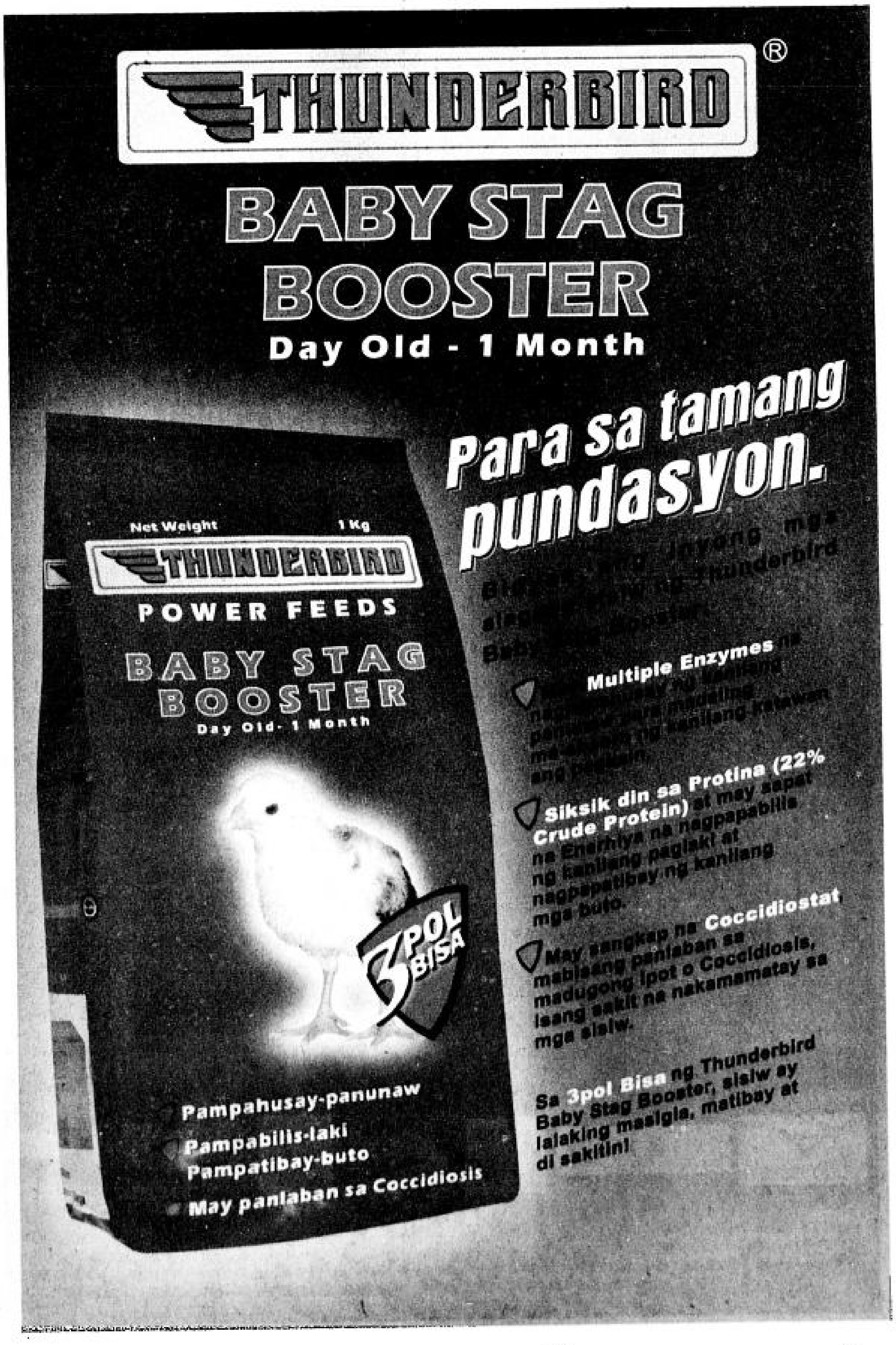
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CSB pair beach volley champs

By Ernie Gonzales

BORACAY—College of St. Benilde returned the men's title to Manila yesterday, but Cebu's Southwestern University remained on top in the women's division of the ninth Nestea Beach Volley here.

Arnold Laniog and Janley Patrona, showing the chemistry that helped them secure for CSB the NCAA title this year, dethroned defending champion University of San Jose-Recoletos, bannered by Cebuanos Joseph Alguno and Jonrey Sasing, 21-13, 21-16.

Except for a brief stretch in the second set, Laniog and Patrona were never threatened as CSB became the sixth men's winner from Manila while depriving Cebu a title sweep for the second year in a row.

Earlier, Florian Gutierrez and Marites Natad clinched a third straight women's crown for SWU by whipping surprise finalist University of Mindanao-Tagum, 21-14, 21-14.

It was the first time a team from Mindanao had reached the women's final and Liezl Manatad and Mylin Que said they felt like champions despite the loss because UM-T finished only fourth overall last year and third in the Mindanao eliminations last month in Manila.

The champion teams won P100,000 each and another P50,000 worth of sports equipment for their schools. The second placers picked up P50,000 and the third placers P25,000.

Gabshar Tahiluddin and Yusop Abdulkarim boosted Mindanao State University to third place in the men's division with a 21-17, 21-16 win over University of Southern Philippines, which was represented by Ronald Melencion and James Rivera.

The USJR pair of Mechell Matuguina and Julett Mae Marikit salvaged third place without sweating it out under the blazing summer sun when University of Visayas, last year's losing finalist, forfeited their match due to stomach cramps that struck Joyce Nuñez in the semifinals against SWU in the morning.

Although Nuñez was later declared in fine condition after she was brought to a hospital, she was not allowed to return against USJR.

Laniog and Patrona credited coach Clarence Esteban for guiding the partnership that was formed when Janley, a 24-year-old national volleyball team hopeful, moved to CSB from sister school La Salle last year.

The event is sponsored by Speedo, Mikasa, Cebu Pacific, Hey Jude Resorts, D'Mall D'Boracay, La Salle Greenhills, Villa de Oro, Coppertone, Boracay Regency, Power Plant, National Sports Grill and Click the City.com.

MARITES Natad of Southwestern University returns a volley against University of Mindanao-Tagum during the finals. ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

Syria tames M. Lhuillier

DUBAI, UAE—M. Lhuillier Kwarta Padala-Philippines yielded to reigning FIBA Asia Champions League titlist Al Wahda Damascus of Syria, 96-102, before a big crowd in the First Sheik Hamdan Basketball Tournament Friday night at the Al Nasr Sports Club.

"They wouldn't be the FIBA Asia Champion for nothing," said Kwarta Padalaa coach Yayoy Alcoseba. "But at least, we gave a good fight, and we're grateful that we got the respect of the crowd despite our setback."

John Grice bounced back from his dismal debut here as he topscored for M. Lhuillier Kwarta Padala with 29 points, while Broderick Bobb was at his usual best delivering 21 points.

Aldrin Ocanada and Carlos Sayon scored 14 points apiece for the Filipinos, who absorbed their second straight setback.

The loss put the Jewelers in a must-win situation against host team Al Nasr to qualify into the semifinals.

"That will be our focus today," said Alcoseba.

Power Race tilt registration on

THE NEW Balance Power Race will feature team competitions among top corporations and colleges, marking the first time in four years that the premier running event will hold such contests alongside the regular long and middle-distance races.

Slated May 29 at the Fort Bonifacio, Global City, the race offers P30,000 worth of gift certificates to the corporate run winner and P16,000 cash to the collegiate champion. Deadline for submission of entries is on May 15. Entry fee is P150 per member.

Registration centers are at the Race Office, Vasquez Madrigal Plaza Bldg., Greenhills; New Balance Festival Supermall, Filinvest, Alabang; New Balance Glorietta, Glorietta 4; The Athletes Foot, Robinson's Place Ermita; Planet Sports Rockwell, Power Plant Mall; and The Athletes Foot Galleria, Robinson's Galleria.

Japan rules Jr Davis Cup; RP lands 3rd

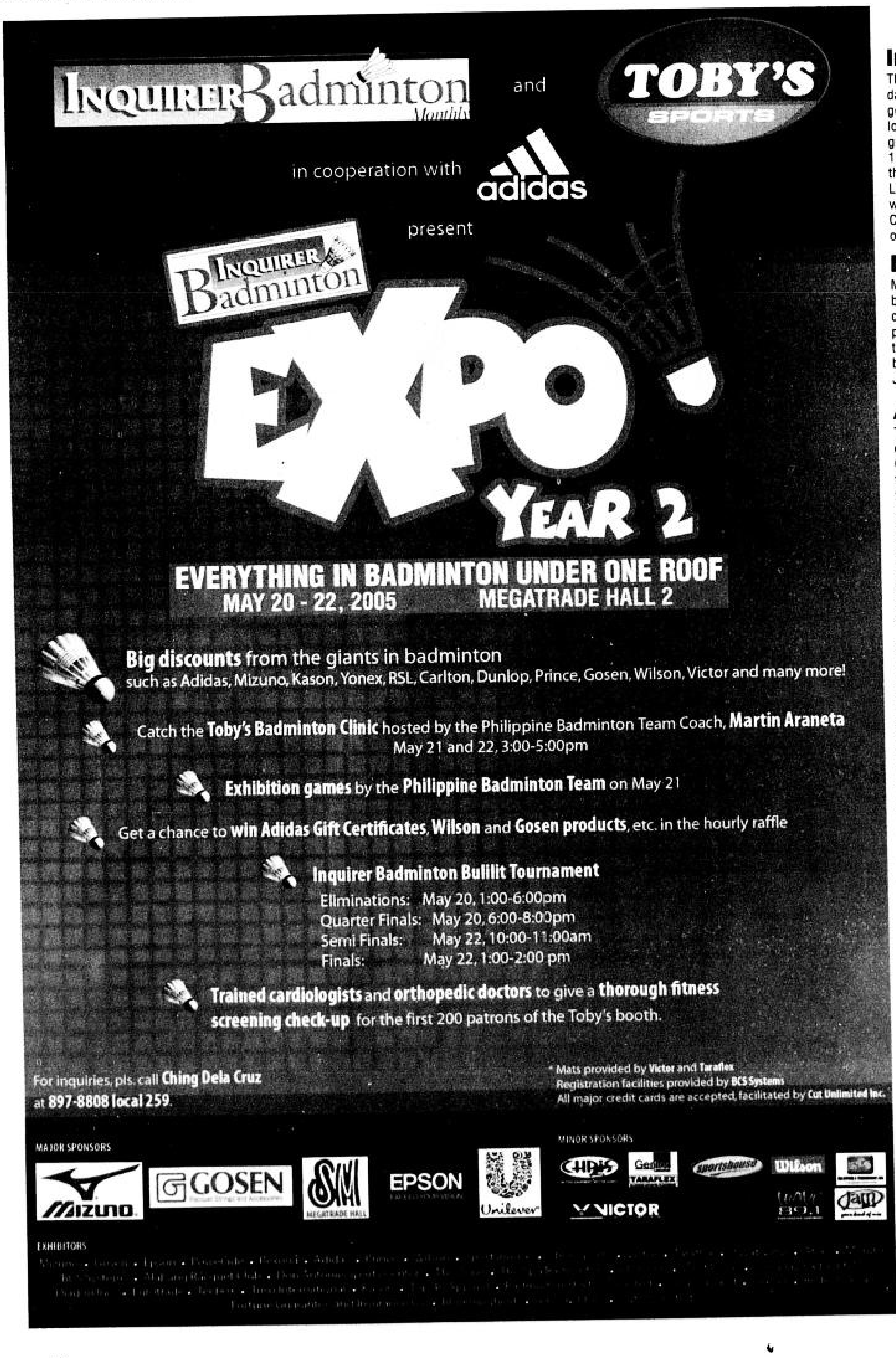
JAPAN stunned top seed Australia, 2-0, yesterday to rule the Junior Davis Cup Asia-Oceania qualifying at the Manila Polo Club court.

Host Philippines, seeded fourth, also posted a 2-1 reversal over third-ranked Thailand to settle for third place.

Kyle Joshua Dandan and Ralph Kevin Barte handed the victory to the Philippines after winning the doubles over Peerapach Tupwong and Kittiphong Wachiramanowong, 6-1, 3-6, 7-6 (5).

Thailand led 1-0 when Wachiramanowong, singles and doubles champion in the BKSP International Juniors in Bangladesh last January, won the opening singles over Pablo Olivarez II, 6-3, 6-1.

But Dandan, the only Filipino in the ITF Under-16 Touring team that will compete for two months in Europe, tied the count at 1-1 when he took the second singles over Peraklat Siriluethaiwattana, 7-6 (1), 6-4.



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Intervillage east up at Forest Hills

THE NOKIA Intervillage golf series holds its third sectoral tournament Tuesday with a promise of another spirited chase for the top three spots among golfing villages in San Juan, Pasig and Marikina at the Forest Hills in Antipolo. Casa Verde, which lost to three-time champion Philam Homes in the grand finals last year, is back to lead the pack chasing top honors in the first 18 holes of the east sector tournament, a two-stage event where the top three squads will advance to the championship round. Led by joint skippers Lito Casal and Sonny Bitong, the Casa Verde golfers are fancied to dominate with the challenge likely to come from Greenhills, the combined team of Cinco Hermanos and Monte Vista, Valle Verde 6, Kapitolyo, the joint squads of Valle Verde 3 and 5, and Loyola Grand Villas.

New Milo BEST schedule

MILO BEST Center announced yesterday the new schedule of volleyball and basketball summer classes on Tuesdays and Fridays at the Ateneo College covered courts. Starting on Tuesday, sessions will be conducted from 1 to 5 p.m. BEST Center official Mrilyn Jorge also announced that interested parties may sign up until May 10. Milo BEST center is also holding summer basketball clinics in other venues like San Beda College Alabang and Manila, Jose Rizal University and Notre Dame of Greater Manila.

AFC-Snickers football clinic

THE ATENEO Football Center (AFC)—Snickers football summer clinic second module for boys and girls started yesterday until May 29 at the Ateneo College Football Field in Katipunan, Quezon City. Enrollment is still open for the.clinic which started in 1982. Certified coaches, including UAAP men's football back-to-back champion coach Arnulfo Merida, will handle lectures and drills to assure the full development of the students. Developing the mental skills and basic football tactics will also be discussed. AFC will have the following age group for boys: 4-6, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12 and 13-14; while for high school, 15-16 and 17-18 will be available. For the girls 9-10, 11-12, 13-14, 15-16 and 17-18 age groups are also available. The Ateneo Men's Football Team is the UAAP 2003 and 2004 champions, while its midgets and junior counterparts have captured many titles and awards in national football tournaments. For inquiries, call 4266001 local 4192 or 4265955.

Stockinger eyes another double

MARLON Stockinger of Birel-SFIC guns for another double win as the 2005 Shell Helix Superkarting Series stages its third leg at the Batangas Racing Circuit this weekend, May 14-15. The 15-year-old Stockinger won both the ICA Open and the Formula Rotax Max Seniors class in the second leg at the Boom Na Boom Kart Track and another victory will put him up the ladder in this series sanctioned by the Automobile Association of the Philippines and sponsored by the Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corporation, Denso Iridium Power, Bridgestone by Phil. Allied Ent. Corp., DMCI Homes, Eastway Motorcycle Racing, Khaos, Aeromed and Aviva Insurance. He is currently second in the Formula Rotax Max Seniors and fourth in the premiere Intercon-A class. Stockinger ruled the Batangas leg last year and looks forward to another big win over the top favorites—Reigning Karter of the Year Matteo Guidicelli of the Cebu Racing Group and Asian Karting Queen Michelle Bumgarner of Intrepid-M&M Racing

World title fight in Fistorama

SAMSUNG'S Fistorama features this afternoon the World Boxing Federation junior welterweight title fight between reigning champion Dindo Castanares of the Philippines and challenger Steven Marks of Australia. This was the first title defense of Castanares held last Saturday at the Mandaue Sports Complex in Mandaue and promoted by Sammy Gello-Ani. Samsung's Fistorama will be aired this Saturday and Sunday in Australia, North America, Europe, Middle East and other parts of the world through ABS-CBN Global's The Filipino Channel/Pinoy Central TV. Samsung's Fistorama, supported by Samsung, Tanduay, PCSO and Mapecon is aired at 4 p.m., Sundays on RPN 9. "Golf Power Plus," featuring the elimination round of the Cantada Sports Collegiate Women's Beach Volleyball Challenge, airs at 3 p.m.

Negros breeders to host Roligon derby

THE AMPIL and Bacud brothers, who are popular gamefowl breeders in Negros Occidental, will host the "EYB Air Assault 6-Cock Derby" on May 14, 16 and 18 at Roligon Mega Cockpit. At least 80 entries are expected in this event which offers a guaranteed prize of P1 million. Entry fee is P16,500. The first round eliminations (2-cock) unfolds on Saturday while the second round is on May 16. All qualifiers will meet on May 18 for the championship. Meanwhile, nine entries emerged as co-champions in the 277-entry "Game Ka Na Ba 5-Cock Derby" which lasted until noon yesterday. The winners were Romero Yu (JPC Ray), William Go (Jed and Joy), Col Tabique (San Jose Slasher), Louie Du (M-38) and entries RJ 2005, Tapikoy CAC, RCBC H-Day, St. Paul and Mountain View. Derby host Rolly Ligon is set to host another event, the "Summer Heat 4-Cock Derby" on May 28, 30 and June 1. The fastest kill winner will get a Toyota Hi-Lux 4x4.

Hellfire rules Euro race; FG Cup today

By Edwin Villanueva, *Contributor*

PROMINENT owner Hermie Esguerra had previously branded Hellfire as one of the "hottest" gallopers in his powerhouse stable.

True enough, Hellfire lived up to that billing yesterday as he displayed a searing run in ruling the European Union-Cup race in front of a mammoth Saturday afternoon crowd at the Santa Ana Park.

"I knew he would make it because he's in tip-top condition," said Esguerra on Hellfire, who scored a three-length victory in the 1,500-meter contest.

Under the masterful guidance of star rider Jesse Guce, Hellfire, named after the deadly bomb unleashed from the US attack helicopters Apache, blew by recent PSA Cup winner Cat's Gold and Speed O'War at the top of the stretch and kicked home unchallenged.

A 4-year-old bay colt sired by Principality out of Heretofore, Hellfire won P200,000 for Esguerra, whose other entry, Marque, finished third behind eventual runner-up Cat's Gold. Winning time was 1:36 flat (18-23.5-25-29.5).

The third-favored Hellfire, who made waves last year by racking up a string of six victories under veteran Angelito Laguinto, made his winning move nearing the far turn as he dispatched Heroics and Empire Cat before setting his sights on Speed O War and Cat's Gold.

Speed O War ended up fourth then came Heroics and Empire Cat.

The various ambassadors of the European Union-member countries led by Hon. Peter Beckingham of Britain were on hand during the awards rites where Esguerra was represented by trainer Andrew Sanchez.

Meanwhile, Empire King aims to score another win against Cover Girl and West Bound when they collide in the 2005 First Gentleman Silver Cup today.

Empire King is facing the stablemates on a track he loves to run at and the 2,050-meter distance fits his galloping style. To top it all, Jeffrey Ladiana is partnering him again.

Revtex riders top Motocross

THE POWERHOUSE Revtex Motocross Team, led by Glenn Aguilar and Kenneth San Andres, racked up three victories to transform the recent 2005 Asingan, Pangasinan Invitational Motocross Championships into its own playground.

Nicknamed the Revtex Rocket due to his speed and riding skills, Aguilar led the assault of the Revtex squad in the moto festival with a double triumph in the premier Pro Open and Pro 125.

San Andres, on the other hand, was peerless in the Expert Open, winning both the morning and afternoon races by as much as half-a-lap.

"This a very good way to stay sharp and focused for the National Motocross Championships and the FIM-Asia Championships," said Aguilar, who is shooting for his second Asia-Pacific title. "I had two very good rides due to the world-class Revtex oil in my engine."

Aguilar swept the four heats of the Pro Open and 125 categories while San Andres, who leads the Expert Open division of the NAMSSA national series, beat Revtex teammates Johnny Garcia (2nd) and Geovani Leyba (3rd) in the first heat with Leyba and Garcia switching places in the second heat of the Expert Open.

RACING TIPS

AT SANTA ANA
BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. You and Me 2. Pasirit 3. Carte Blanche 4. No Compromise
Race 2—1. Ahoy My Boy 2. Aya's Star 3. Vitality 4. Sir Guguy
Race 3—1. Golden Africa 2. Fantasia 3. Ahead of Time 4. Magnanimous
Race 4—1. Truly Impressive 2. Lucky Joe 3. Red Strike 4. Drink N Drink
Race 5—1. Dark Beat 2. Gabriela 3. Brenda Starr
Race 6—1. In Command 2. Tres Jeune 3. Commodore Tiger 4. Battle Hero 5. Friendly Venture
Race 7—1. Empire King 2. Cover Girl/West Bound
Race 8—1. Davao Queen 2. Puppy Dog Tail 3. Wild Orchid/Spectacular Play 4. Conquer D Sun
Race 9—1. Noble House 2. Fancy Dancer 3. Pivotal 4. Lovely Tara 5. Fastteller
Race 10—1. Ocean Cookie 2. Strong Colony 3. Fine Offer
Race 11—1. Perfect Vision 2. Renzie Stays 3. Words of Joy 4. My Lady Hannah 5. Full of Success
Race 12—1. Idol 2. Hello Happy 3. Cool Reception 4. Native Prince
Race 13—1. Aminin 2. Si Isidro Ko 3. Tenacity 4. Best in Class 5. Extreme Illusion 6. Play the Field/Extreme Magic

SPORTS TV

Compiled by Lorenzo Manguiat

BASKETBALL: NBA Playoffs—Pacers vs Celtics, Game 7; 7 a.m.; Solar Sports; Rockets vs Mavs, Game 7; Sports Plus;—It's win or go home for the teams involved in these two Game 7 encounters.

Schedules subject to change without prior notice.

Sphere FC leads RIFA tilt

THE SPHERE Football Club, powered by members of the national Under-19 team, leads the 1st "RIFA Girls '9-a-Side' Summer Football Tournament" with 3 wins and one draw to its name.

In its last match ending the first round, Sphere FC forged a 2-2 draw against Ha Girls Football Club, which is hanging on to second place.

Round one ended with Miriam College in 3rd position followed by Colegio de San Agustin/Hed Center and Immaculate Concepcion Academy.

Bob Manlulo, head coach for Miriam, is the organizer and tournament director of the event for girls born 1988-and-younger.

If I were Butch

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

WHICH would you prefer, a foreigner for a coach or not?

I ask this in lieu of some 15 foreigners reportedly coaching 15 disciplines in Philippine sports.

I bet you never heard of this—an aberration I should say.

Do you know that a foreign coach receives more than triple the monthly take of a local coach?

If I were Butch Ramirez, the well-meaning officer in charge of the Philippine Sports Commission, I'd terminate immediately the contract of the foreign coaches now being employed by the PSC. Pay the balance of their contracts and then shoo them away to where they came from.

For one, we should always value our own. How can we progress if we keep on relying on others? Self-reliance has always been the time-tested formula of success. I'm not anti-foreigner per se. I want them here but not on a wholesale basis. That is unwholesome, to say the least. Fifteen foreign coaches—hey, isn't that too much?

We produced a Carlos Loyzaga without a foreign coach. And he became one of the world's Top 5 basketball players in 1954.

We produced a Paeng Nepomuceno without a foreign coach. And he became a world bowling champion many times over spanning three decades.

We produced a Mona Sulaiman without a foreign coach. And she became Asia's fastest in the Sixties.

We produced a Lydia de Vega without a foreign coach. She had a Tatang to make her Asia's queen of the sprints in 1982.

We produced a Mikee Cojuangco-Jaworski without a foreign coach. And she won the equestrian gold in the 2002 Busan Asian Games.

OK, the times, they are a-changin'. But at most, let's be selective: Pick some as consultants, but never as head coaches. Isn't the habit of making the Filipino work under a foreigner too degrading to our homegrown coaches? We should really stop this ugly practice of making Filipinos second class citizens in their own land of birth.

For another, the 15 foreign coaches are raking in almost a fortune from salaries drawn from the PSC. I was told no less than P3 million a month is the total take home pay of these foreigners. That's a lot of money that can be shared by more than 15 Filipino coaches, salary wise.

If I were Butch Ramirez, I'd use that amount to train aspiring coaches. Put up an academy and have them study the science of coaching. Ok again, pick some of the foreigners as lecturers or resource speakers.

If I were Butch Ramirez, I'd spend part of that money for seminars abroad of Filipino coaches now under the wings of the PSC. Exposure trips would surely broaden the horizons of our own breed dedicated to producing world class athletes.

Look, there was even this foreign coach in bowling—was his name Lone Granger or something?—who played for the country in a tournament abroad. If that was not an aberration, what is? He got raked for that, not to mention the verbal criticism heaped on several officials who allowed that madness to happen. I don't know if that coach is still here. If he is, then this country is headed nowhere.

Without a doubt, some foreign coaches are more knowledgeable than our own. But that does not immediately make them totally superior over our own kind. They may be advanced in the technical aspect of the sport, yes, but how about in the area of psyche, or the vagaries of cultural co-existence? There's a whale of a difference between the two. Expertise is one, racial differences is another. At best, it is ideal that Filipinos coach their own as the nuances of customs and traditions are best ingested by same-race relationships.

If I were Butch Ramirez, the son of a policeman from the rustic town of Padada in Davao del Sur, I'd crack the whip no matter who gets hurt.

In his nearly five years at PSC since 2000, Butch Ramirez has never been known to compromise his integrity, a trait that has been the cornerstone of a life molded from years of seminary schooling and a childhood carved in frugal but dignified ways. He was thrust into a position of power just months back that stunned those who continue to believe one cannot advance without a big pull from upstairs. How come this child of woe, one of 12 children, reached the top minus the aid of political backers? If there's one reason why there's hope in the GMA administration, it's Butch Ramirez. Ask me about his rating as PSC OIC and I'll say, well, so far, so good.

At this stage, that's good enough a grade for the poor boy that made good in the city—thus far.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER TV GUIDE

Sunday, May 8, 2005

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ABS-CBN 2	A.S.A.P Fanatics		SCQ Reload		The Buzz				Goin' Bulilit		Rated K		TV Patrol World	Search For A Star In A Million		Sunday Family Cinema			
ABC 5		Ringside		PBA										ABCinema					
GMA 7	Gigsters	Love To Love			S-Files				Naks	Mel & Joey Kapuso Mo, Jessica Soho	All Star K		Daddy Di Do Du		Sunday Night Box Office				
RPN 9		Golf Power	Auto Extreme	Fistorama		WWE Experience		Smackdown		Navy Ncis		Without A Trace						Alamin Ang Dubitas	The Working President
IBC 13		Lifestyle	Nation's Peacekeeper	America Atbp.		Home Shopping Network		Home Shopping Network		Legacy Of Hero		2005 Japan 9-Ball Festival				Iyo Ang Katarungan	EL SHADDAI		
JackTV		WWE Afterburn		WWE Smackdown				WWE Velocity		WWE Bottomline		WWE Afterburn		Pride FC				Stanball	
Nickelodeon	Girls In Love	Kenan & Kel	As Told By Ginger	Tao Shu The Warrior Boy	Lat, The Kampung Boy	Jimmy Timmy Power Hour		Danny Phantom	My Life As A Teenage Robot	SpongeBob SquarePants	The Fairly Odd Parents	Sabrina, The Teenage Witch	Romeo	Girls In Love	Kenan & Kel	As Told By Ginger	Rocket Power	Hey Arnold!	The Wild Thornberrys
MYX		Urban MYX	MYX Backtrax	Pop MYX	OPM MYX	Take 5	My MYX	MYX Hit Chart				Pop MYX	Urban MYX	MYX Presents		My MYX	MYX Backtrax	OPM MYX	Mellow MYX
ETC	Will & Grace	Saturday Night Live		Veronica Mars		American Dreams		One Tree Hill		Queer Eye For The Straight Girl		Average Joe		Rated Oh!	The Insider Weekend	Nip/ Tuck		Entertainment Tonight Weekend	
Cinema One				Isinakdal ko ang Aking Ina				Luv Text				Volta				Abakada Ina			
Studio 23			Stoplight TV	BYK 101	Hotwire TV	Top Gear	Game Plan	Nginiig: The Hidden Files		Exposed		Two & A Half Men	Just Shoot Me	Will & Grace	F.	Digital Tour (10.15PM)		Fastlane (11.15PM)	
AXN							Hollywood's Greatest Stunts			The Amazing Race 7		Fear Factor (Season V)		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (Season 5)		Lost		The Contender	
Star World		The Apprentice			Growing Up Gotti	Business Week Asia	Travel Asia	Wild Card		Malcolm In The Middle	The Kumars At No. 42	Oprah Prime Time		Parkinson		The Office		Malcolm In The Middle	Oprah Prime Time
CNN	Design 360	World News	International Correspondents	World News	The Daily Show With John Stewart: Global Edition	Larry King Live		World News	World Sport	CNN Presents: A Rising Tide: The Threat Of Global Warming		World News	MainSail	World News	The Daily Show With John Stewart: Global Edition	Global Challenges	CNN Business Traveller	Talk Asia	World Sport
National Geographic		Interpol Investigates		Samsung Best Of The Week		Human Edge	Crittercam Wildtech Adventure	Jungle Week		Deep Jungle: Monster In The Forest/Hot Science From New Zealand		Deep Jungle:New Frontiers		Deep Jungle:The Beast Within				Samsung Best Of The Week	
Solar Sports			GWS Ep.18-2005	Sports Desk	World Table Tennis C'ships Finals				Boxing: Castillo vs. Corrales						NBA Playoffs First Round				
Lifestyle Network	Date With Design	Ground Rules	Outer Spaces	Your Private Island	Breathing Room	Back To Basics	Food 911	30 Minute Meals	Sweet Dreams	Food Network Special		E! Entertainment Special 101 Most Shocking Moments		50 Most Outrageous TV Moments				Style Star	You're Invited
HBO	Ride Or Die			About Schmidt				How To Lose A Guy In 10 Days				Congo			Striking Distance (9.45 PM)				A Walk To Remember
Star Movies		Sleepless In Seattle				Nutty Professor II: The Klumps			Die Another Day (6.45 PM)					Hope Springs			Just Married (10.35PM)		
Cartoon Network	Scooby-Doo Mysteries	The Detective Squad	Tom & Jerry Show	Swat Kats	Duck Dodgers	Xiaolin Showdown	Winx Club	Atomic Betty	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles	Teen Titans	Megas XLR	The Looney Tunes Show		Cartoon Cartoon Show	Power Rangers Ninja Storm	Duck Dodgers	Codename: Kids Next Door	Samurai Jack	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
ESPN		Classic Boxing: J. Frazier vs. O. Bonavena		Pool/Snooker Premier Snooker League '05				Boxing Series Friday Night Fights				Classic Boxing: F. Patterson vs. O. Bonavena		2004 World Summit of Pool NY, NY USA		Women's Pro Billiards '05		Eng. Premier Football League 04/05	
Disney Channel	Potatoes And Dragons	Sabrina, The Animated Series	The Legend Of Tarzan	Wicked Science	Kim Possible	Totally Spies	That's So Raven	American Dragon	Phil Of The Future	America's Funniest Home Video	Wonderful World Of Disney			Dave The Barbarian	Mr. Bean	America's Funniest Home Video	That's So Raven	Wonderful World Of Disney	
Cinemax	The Wisher			The Survivors Club			Dead Air (5.45 PM)				Landslide (7.20 PM)			Who's Your Daddy?			The Ring (10.45PM)		
Hallmark Channel	Bewitched	Silent Night				Long Shot				Choosing Matthias				The Blackwater Lightship			Grace's Choice (10.35PM)	Power Zone	
Discovery Channel		Science Mysteries		American Chopper		Rides		Extreme Machines		Hour Asia				Discovery Sunday					
Sports Plus					TV Shopping	Aaron's 499 Highlights		Raceworld		Liberty Mutual Legends of Golf Highlights		Kentucky Derby		Got A Grip		Wachovia C'ship Day3			
NBN		Value Vision		Kabataan News Network	Family Rosary Crusade	Concert at the Park		Kamao		Family Rosary Crusade	The Working President	Battle Of Royale		To Be Announced					Unlimited Diving

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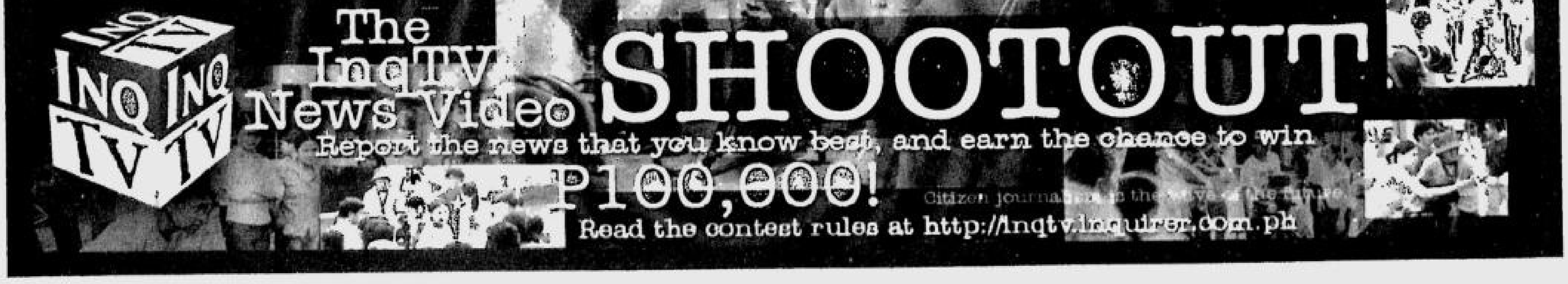
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Wizards end drought

Oust Bulls, win first playoff series since '82

WASHINGTON—While there are plenty of reasons why the Washington Wizards are headed to the second round of the playoffs for the first time in 23 years, let there be no mistake: Gilbert Arenas is the man who led them there.

After making the game-winning shot in Game 5, Arenas shot just 6-of-24 in Game 6 Friday but raced downcourt and blocked Kirk Hinrich's fast-break layup with 2:41 to play, igniting a game-ending 7-0 run in the Wizards' series-clinching 94-91 victory over the Chicago Bulls.

"That was a big play, a huge play," Washington coach Eddie Jordan said. "Gilbert didn't shoot the ball well, but there are players who have a will and a determination to win, who will do anything they have to do to help their team win."

Confetti flooded the MCI floor and fireworks exploded at the final buzzer as the Wizards won the series 4-2, advancing for the first time since the Bullets' 2-0 sweep of New Jersey in 1982, back when the first round was best-of-three.

"I was just born, huh?" said the 23-year-old Arenas. "It's great feeling for us. We believed we can go far, and we're showing it."

GILBERT Arenas, on whose back the Wizards rode all year, celebrates with an appreciative Washington home crowd after the victory. AP

This was the ninth time in NBA history that a team recovered from a 0-2 deficit to advance, but the Wizards aren't getting much of a break to enjoy their success. They open at top-seeded Miami and Shaquille O'Neal on Sunday in the Eastern Conference semifinals.

"People didn't think we could win this series. We proved them wrong. Now we have more critics to silence," Antawn Jamison said. "How are we going to deal with the big fellow? The more we play together the more we get confidence. It's a big challenge at hand. I love to be the underdog. We're going to have fun and enjoy the moment." *AP, AFP*

Kentucky Derby: '8 to 10 bets can win'

LOUISVILLE, Kentucky—Front runners and speed could make for a contentious Kentucky Derby on Saturday.

Twenty horses will break from the starting gate at Churchill Downs, and "there are eight to 10 horses who can win," three-time Derby-winning trainer Bob Baffert said.

With so many young horses crowding each other and jockeys with varying levels of experience on their backs, expect some bumping going into the first turn.

The outcome for the top contenders, who share similar running styles, could be decided early if they get caught in speed duels or traffic jams going 1 1/4 miles (two kilometers).

Bellamy Road, owned by New York Yankees boss George Steinbrenner, was the early 5-2 favorite. The second choice was Afleet Alex at 9-2, with Bandini the third choice at 6-1.

Spanish Chestnut is the race's acknowledged rabbit, entered by Bandini's owners with hopes of softening up Bellamy Road, who should be right there with him. Spanish Chestnut will dictate what is expected to be a sizzling early pace and dare the rest of the field to challenge him.

"Spanish Chestnut is the only thing that could interfere with that horse," Baffert said, referring to the favorite.

Crowd noise can be a major factor for inexperienced 3-year-old horses running in front of the biggest audience in their careers. Last year, about 140,000 people jammed Churchill Downs on a rainy day to watch Smarty Jones win. Saturday's forecast called for sunny skies and highs in the upper 70s F (mid 20s C), meaning an even bigger crowd is likely. *AP*

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2 (DOLBY)	GUESS WHO	PG13
3 (DOLBY)	SPONGEBOB	GP
4 (DOLBY)	INTERPRETER	PG13

PREMIERE

(DOLBY)	XXX 2	PG13

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4 GOLD (DTS)	PACIFIER
5 GOLD (DOLBY)	GUESS WHO
6 GOLD (SDDS)	XXX - 2 THE NEXT LEVEL
7 GOLD (DOLBY)	KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
8	RING OF THE NIBELUNGS
9	WEDDING DATE
10	CAN THIS BE LOVE

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XXX: STATE OF THE UNION
CAN THIS BE LOVE
FINDING NEVERLAND
THE INTERPRETER
KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
THE WEDDING DATE
THE PACIFIER
SAHARA

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2	CAN THIS BE LOVE
3	XXX: STATE OF THE UNION
4	SIX
5	TAGOS SA LAMAN

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1	XXX - 2 THE NEXT LEVEL
2	RING OF THE NIBELUNG
3	CAN THIS BE LOVE
4	KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

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2	RESERVED
3	RESERVED
4	RESERVED
5	RESERVED

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1	CAN THIS BE LOVE
2	KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
3	XXX-2 THE NEXT LEVEL

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Mandaluyong
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1	CAN THIS BE LOVE
2	KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
3	XXX-2 THE NEXT LEVEL
4	RESERVED

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1	KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

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2	TAGOS SA LAMAN
3	SA PILING NG MGA BELYAS
4 (DTS)	HOSTAGE

Lianas MovieCity
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1 (DOLBY)	XXX-2 THE NEXT LEVEL
2	CAN THIS BE LOVE
3 (DTS)	KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
4	TAGOS SA LAMAN
5	SPONGEBOB

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1	RESERVED
2	RESERVED
3	XXX-2 THE NEXT LEVEL
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX)	CAN THIS BE LOVE
5	KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

Jade Cinema
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1 (DOLBY EX)	XXX-2 THE NEXT LEVEL
2	CAN THIS BE LOVE
3 (DTS EX)	KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
4	SAHARA

Mega Center Mall
(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3283

1	SAHARA
2	ALONE IN THE DARK
3 (DTS)	PACIFIER
4 (DOLBY)	CAN THIS BE LOVE

METROPOLIS star
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(Alabang) tel 850.4285

1	XXX-2 THE NEXT LEVEL
2	TAGOS SA LAMAN
3	RESERVED
4	RESERVED
5 (DOLBY)	KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
6	CAN THIS BE LOVE

Cine Nepo
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1	CAN THIS BE LOVE
2	XXX-2 THE NEXT LEVEL
3 (DOLBY)	KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
4 (DTS)	SAHARA

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1	CAN THIS BE LOVE
2	PACIFIER
3 (DOLBY)	SHAOLIN VS' EVILDEAD
4 (DTS)	SAHARA

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1	KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
2	XXX-2 THE NEXT LEVEL
3	SAHARA
4	CAN THIS BE LOVE

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1 (DOLBY)	WAR EAGLE
2	RESERVED

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1	CAN THIS BE LOVE
2	ONG BAK

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029

1	SA PILING NG MGA BELYAS
2	XXX-2 THE NEXT LEVEL

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Araneta Center Leisure Guide

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GUESS WHO 12:40 / 3:00 / 5:20 / 7:40 / 10:00	KINGDOM OF HEAVEN 1:00 / 3:20 / 4:00 / 6:20 / 7:00 / 9:20 / 10:00
XXX 2: STATE OF THE UNION 12:50 / 3:00 / 5:10 / 7:20 / 9:30	THE WEDDING DATE 1:10 / 3:20 / 5:30 / 7:40 / 9:50
CAN THIS BE LOVE 12:50 / 3:00 / 5:10 / 7:20 / 9:30	THE PACIFIER 1:50 / 4:10 / 6:30 / 8:50
FINDING NEVERLAND 2:00 / 4:20 / 6:40 / 9:00	SAHARA 1:30 / 4:10 / 6:50 / 9:30
THE INTERPRETER 12:40 / 3:20 / 6:00 / 8:40	GLOBE PLATINUM CINEMA Pre-Opening Screenings - KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

ALI MALL CINEMAS

❶ KINGDOM OF HEAVEN 11:20 / 2:20 / 5:20 / 8:20	❹ SIX 11:50 / 2:05 / 4:20 / 6:35 / 8:50
❷ CAN THIS BE LOVE 11:45 / 1:55 / 4:05 / 6:15 / 8:25	❺ TAGOS SA LAMAN 11:55 / 2:00 / 4:05 / 6:10 / 8:15
❸ XXX 2: STATE OF THE UNION 11:45 / 1:55 / 4:05 / 6:15 / 8:25	DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

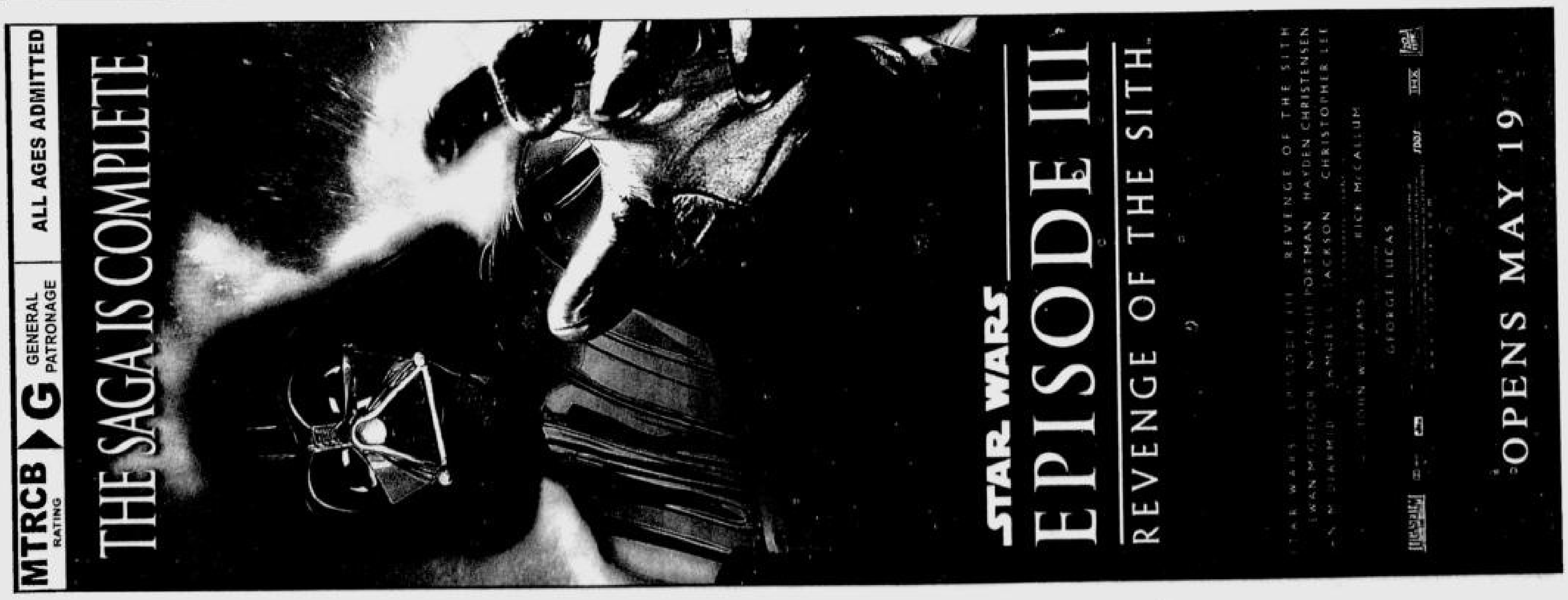
ARANETA COLISEUM EVENTS

2005 PBA FIESTA CONFERENCE May 11 4:45pm Alaska vs. Red Bull / 7:35pm Talk N Text vs Purefoods	KEVYN LETTAU: MEMORIES OF LOVE May 14, Saturday, 8pm
THE ' C ' SHOW May 21, Saturday, 8pm	ASHANTI LIVE IN MANILA May 26, Thursday, 8pm

CENTER EVENTS

PROMOS	***Rustan's Essenses For Moms,*** *FREE Essenses Gift Packs for the first 100 mommy moviegoers at Gateway Cineplex 10 on May 8* ***Super Mom's Day At Super Bowl,*** *For every order of a set meal, moms get a chance to win cool prizes at Super Bowl Of China at Level 3 of Gateway Mall on May 8.* ***Pretty Mama At Oyster Boy*** *, Lucky mommy diners get a chance to win up to 3,000 worth of gifts from David's Salon & Day Spa at Oyster Boy along Shopwise Arcade on May 8.*
PERFORMANCES	***Tropicana, Shanice Michaels & Cadlo*** *are set to perform on May 6, 7 & 8 respectively at The Gateway Pavilion.*

LOG ON TO www.aranetacenter.net FOR MORE DETAILS OR TO SUBSCRIBE TO OUR WEEKLY E-MAIL ENTERTAINMENT UPDATES



FIRST CANADIAN WINNER

Source: Nash claims MVP award

NEW YORK—Steve Nash of the Phoenix Suns has won the NBA's Most Valuable Player award, sources told The Associated Press on Friday.

The award will be announced on Sunday, and the league office has been silent regarding any details of the announcement. Two sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said they had been notified that the Canadian had won.

Nash becomes the first Canadian MVP and only the sixth guard in league history to win the award, joining Bob Cousy, Oscar Robertson, Magic Johnson, Allen Iverson and Michael Jordan.

The 31-year-old guard, who joined the Suns as a free agent after spending six seasons with Dallas, led Phoenix to a league-best 62-20 record while averaging an NBA-high 11.5 assists. The Suns, 29-53 last season, were only the second team in NBA history to win 60 games after losing 50.

"It's exciting to be mentioned, (but) the game is so important for us on Monday that it's a hard time of year to get excited about MVP," said Nash, who becomes the first MVP since Boston's Dave Cowens (1972-73) not to lead his team in scoring.

In a poll conducted by The Arizona Republic, Nash and Shaquille O'Neal were locked in a near dead heat. The newspaper surveyed 106 of the 127 writers and broadcasters who voted for the league's 50th MVP award and found that Nash had 53 first-place votes while O'Neal had 51.

"Oooh, that would be scary. If he doesn't win it, it's going to (make him angry)," said Alonzo Mourning. "I don't want to play against him if he's (angry). Glad he's on my team."

O'Neal averaged 22.9 points and 10.4 rebounds on a league-best 60.1 percent shooting this season. Nash, averaged 15.5 points and made more than 50 percent of his shots—a rarity for guards. He also made 94 3-pointers as the high-scoring Suns set an NBA record for most 3-pointers in a season with 796. *AP*

BASED ON A TRUE STORY

AMITYVILLE HOUSE REVISITED AFTER 30 YEARS: Possessed man murdered all family members

Amityville writer Chris Berry-Dee meets REAL LIFE possessed man Ronnie DeFeo. (© 1994 New Criminologist)

Although 30 years have passed, the allure of the haunted Amityville house with its eye-like windows has yet to diminish. Amidst the stories of demonic possessions and ghostly apparitions, the real horror story remained a mystery.

On November 13, 1974, police received a report of a homicide at 112 Ocean Avenue, where they discovered six members of the DeFeo family — father, mother and four of their five children — shot and killed execution style. The surviving son, Ronald "Butch" DeFeo Jr., was eventually charged and tried for the murder of his family and is currently serving six concurrent life sentences. Some theorized that Ronald DeFeo Jr. was a sociopath turned killer. Others reasoned that Ronald DeFeo Jr. had to be possessed by the devil in order to shoot and kill the slumbering family he adored.

One year later, the new house owners George and Kathy Lutz and their children moved into the house thinking it would be their dream home. But soon they started to hear strange hypnotic voices inside the house.

Sleepless nights, numbing cold, visions of a murdered little girl. Then George began to follow what the voices told him... to kill his family.

Twenty eight days after moving in, the Lutzes abandoned the residence - lucky to escape with their lives.

Now the shocking real-life event is revisited in the new film The Amityville Horror.

THE AMITYVILLE HORROR strips away the mystery surrounding one of the world's most notorious event and provides definitive answers to questions that have been left unanswered over the years about the case. Is the house really possessed by demons? — © MGM • ADVT

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DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

GUESS WHO PG13 12:50,3:10,5:30,7:50,10:15	KINGDOM OF HEAVEN PG13 12:50,3:50,6:50,9:50	THE INTERPRETER PG13 11:40,2:15,4:50,7:25,10:00
XXX 2: THE NEXT LEVEL PG13 12:40,3:00,5:20,7:40,10:00	CAN THIS BE LOVE GP 12:50,3:10,5:30,7:50,10:10	KINGDOM OF HEAVEN PG13 1:30,4:30,7:30,10:30

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3rd hand
4th hand
5th hand
6th hand
7th hand
8th hand
9th hand
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① KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
MTRCB: PG-13
12:55, 4:00, 7:05, 10:10

② GUESS WHO
MTRCB: PG-13
12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

③ SPONGEBOB
MTRCB: GP
12:40, 2:45, 4:50, 6:55, 9:00

④ INTERPRETER
MTRCB: PG-13
10:50, 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10

PREMIERE THEATRE XXX 2
MTRCB: PG-13 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 10.00
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PG13

CINEMA 2
TRIPLE X 2
10:50, 1:05, 3:20, 5:35, 7:50, 10:10
PG13

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1 XXX 2: THE NEXT LEVEL
10:55, 1:20, 3:45, 6:10, 8:35, 11:00
PG-13

2 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
11:00, 2:00, 5:00
8:00, 11:00
PG-13

3 THE INTERPRETER
12:05, 2:55, 5:45
8:35, 11:10
PG-13

4 GUESS WHO?
12:35, 3:10, 5:45
8:20, 10:50
PG-13

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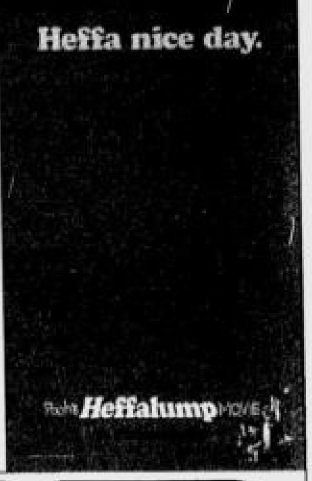
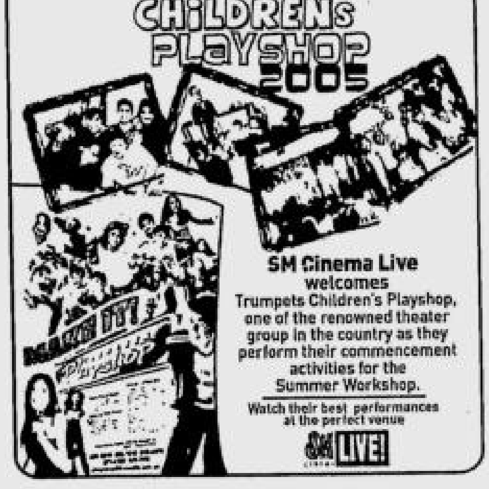


FOR INFORMATION ON MOVIE LISTING, MTRCB RATING, SCREENING, SCHEDULES AND THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT SM CINEMA
☎ CALLUS@ 833-9999
VISITUS@ www.smcinema.co



SM Cinema Live welcomes Trumpets Children's Playshop, one of the renowned theater group in the country as they perform their commencement activities for the Summer Workshop.
Watch their best performances at the perfect venue
SM Cinema LIVE!

GUARANTEED SEATS

the podium cinema
1. KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
11:00 FS / 11:20 MF / 2:10 / 5:00 7:50
10:15 LFS / 10:40 LMF / 1:05 END
2. POOH'S HEFFALUMP
11:00 FS / 11:35 MF / 1:25 / 3:15 / 5:05 / 6:55
8:45 / 10:00 LFS / 10:35 LMF / 11:45 END
☎ 633-8876

sm megamall cinema 1
KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
11:50 FS / 12:20 MF / 3:10 / 6:00
8:25 LFS / 8:50 LMF / 11:15 END ☎ 633-1891

sm cebu cinema 1
CINEMA 1: xXx 2: THE NEXT LEVEL
11:00 MF / 1:06 / 3:12 / 5:18 / 7:24
9:05 LFS / 9:30 LMF / 11:10 END
CINEMA 3: KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
10:30 MF / 1:15 / 4:00 / 6:45
9:10 LFS / 9:30 LMF / 11:35 END
☎ (032) 231-3876

sm manila cinema 6
KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
10:25 MF / 1:05 / 3:43 / 6:25
8:55 LFS / 9:05 LMF / 11:50 END
☎ 523-9240

METRO MANILA

sm megamall
1 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
2 RING OF THE NIBELUNGS
3 xXx 2: THE NEXT LEVEL
4 THE INTERPRETER
5 SIX
6 THE WEDDING DATE
7 RESERVED
8 RESERVED
9 RESERVED
10 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
11 POOH HEFFALUMP MOVIE
12 CAN THIS BE LOVE

sm city fairview
1 RING OF THE NIBELUNGS
2 INTERPRETER
3 GUESS WHO
4 xXx 2: THE NEXT LEVEL
5 CAN THIS BE LOVE
6 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
7 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
8 THE PACIFIER
9 WEDDING DATE
10 SAHARA
11 SAMARA: RING 2
12 SIX

sm city north edsa
1 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
2 CAN THIS BE LOVE
3 RESERVED
4 THE WEDDING DATE
5 CAN THIS BE LOVE
6 RING OF THE NIBELUNGS
7 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
8 xXx 2: THE NEXT LEVEL

sm city manila
1 xXx 2: THE NEXT LEVEL
2 SIX
3 THE WEDDING DATE
4 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
5 FINDING NEVERLAND
6 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
7 GUESS WHO
8 THE INTERPRETER
9 CAN THIS BE LOVE
10 SAHARA
11 RING OF THE NIBELUNGS
12 SAMARA: RING 2

sm city sta. mesa
1 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
2 CAN THIS BE LOVE
3 xXx 2: THE NEXT LEVEL
4 RESERVED
5 RESERVED
6 THE WEDDING DATE
7 SAHARA
8 RING OF THE NIBELUNGS
9 SIX
10 GUESS WHO

sm city southmall
1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
4 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
5 GUESS WHO
6 SIX
7 CAN THIS BE LOVE
8 xXx 2: THE NEXT LEVEL
9 RING OF THE NIBELUNGS
10 SAMARA: RING 2

sm city bicutan
1 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
2 CAN THIS BE LOVE
3 THE INTERPRETER
4 xXx 2: THE NEXT LEVEL

sm cinema tutuban
1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 RESERVED
4 RESERVED

sm supercenter sucat
1 THE JACKET
2 CAN THIS BE LOVE
3 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
4 xXx 2: THE NEXT LEVEL

LUZON

sm city pampanga
1 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
2 xXx 2: THE NEXT LEVEL
3 THE PACIFIER
4 THE INTERPRETER
5 SAHARA
6 CAN THIS BE LOVE

sm city baguio
1 xXx 2: THE NEXT LEVEL
2 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
3 CAN THIS BE LOVE
4 THE WEDDING DATE

sm city batangas
1 xXx 2: THE NEXT LEVEL
2 CAN THIS BE LOVE
3 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
4 SAMARA: RING 2

sm city dasmariñas
1 xXx 2: THE NEXT LEVEL
2 CAN THIS BE LOVE
3 THE INTERPRETER
4 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

sm city bacoor
1 SAMARA: RING 2
2 CAN THIS BE LOVE
3 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
4 RING OF THE NIBELUNGS
5 xXx 2: THE NEXT LEVEL
6 CAN THIS BE LOVE
7 THE INTERPRETER
8 SAHARA

sm city marilao
1 xXx 2: THE NEXT LEVEL
2 THE JACKET
3 CAN THIS BE LOVE
4 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

sm city lucena
1 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
2 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
3 CAN THIS BE LOVE
4 xXx 2: THE NEXT LEVEL

VISAYAS AND MINDANAO

sm city cebu
1 xXx 2: THE NEXT LEVEL
2 RESERVED
3 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
4 THE WEDDING DATE
5 FINDING NEVERLAND
6 THE PACIFIER
7 CAN THIS BE LOVE
8 SAHARA

sm city iloilo
1 THE PACIFIER
2 RESERVED
3 CAN THIS BE LOVE
4 THE JACKET
5 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
6 xXx 2: THE NEXT LEVEL
7 RESERVED
8 ONG BAK: THE THAI WARRIOR

sm city davao
1 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
2 BOOGEYMAN
3 CAN THIS BE LOVE
4 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
5 THE WEDDING DATE
6 xXx 2: THE NEXT LEVEL

sm city cagayan de oro
1 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
2 CAN THIS BE LOVE
3 FINDING NEVERLAND
4 xXx 2: THE NEXT LEVEL

SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

THE MOST AWAITED FILM OF THE YEAR OPENS MAY 18 IN SM CINEMAS
Be there when it happens!
Tickets Now available!
Buy your tickets before its too late!
COMPLETE THE STAR WARS SAGA IN SM CINEMAS

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will be allowed in accompanied by a parent or adult

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF GLADIATOR

ORLANDO BLOOM

KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX PRESENTS
A SCOTT FREE PRODUCTION A RIDLEY SCOTT FILM "KINGDOM OF HEAVEN" ORLANDO BLOOM EVA GREEN JEREMY IRONS DAVID THEWLIS BRENDAN GLEESON MARTON CSOKAS AND LIAM NEESON HARRY GREGSON-WILLIAMS JANTY YATES DODY DORN, A.C.E. ARTHUR MAX JOHN MATHIESON BRANKO LUSTIG LISA ELLZEY TERRY NEEDHAM RIDLEY SCOTT WILLIAM MONAHAN RIDLEY SCOTT
www.kingdomofheavenmovie.com

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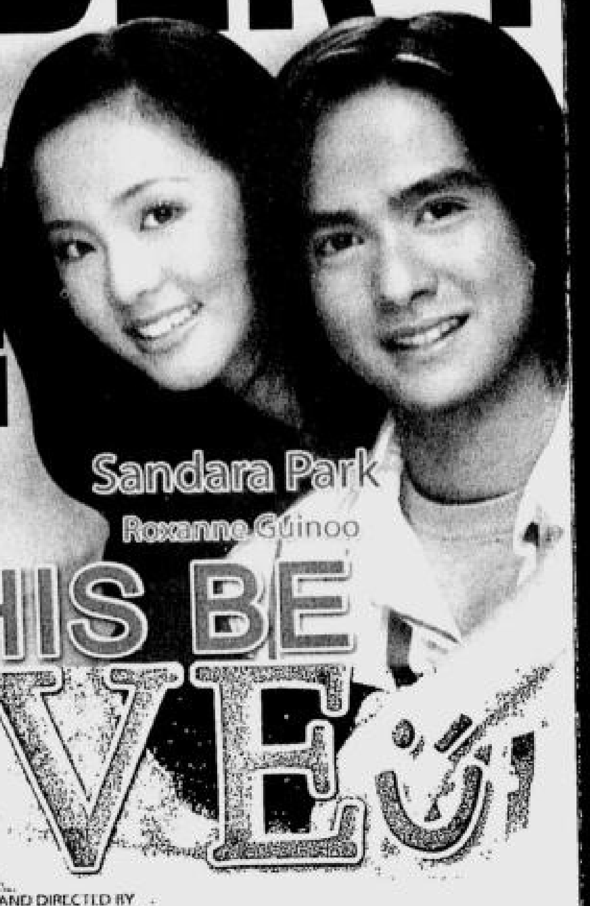
MTRCB RATING ▶ G General Patronage ALL AGES ADMITTED

NUMBER 1 SA BOX OFFICE!!!



Hero Angeles
Joross Gamboa

Sandara Park
Roxanne Guinoo

CAN THIS BE LOVE

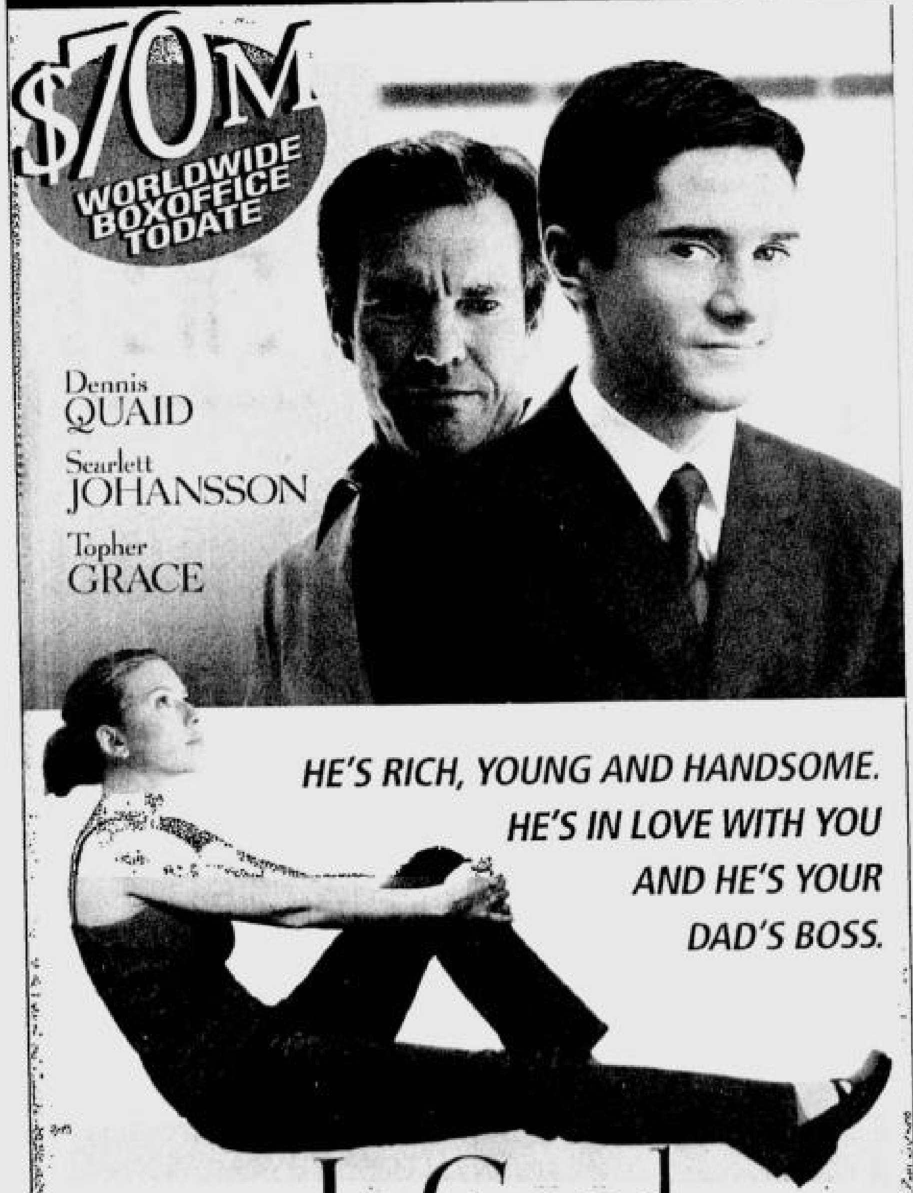
WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY
JOSE JAVIER REYES, DGPI

WESTERN UNION MONEY TRANSFER

NOW ON IT'S 2nd WEEK!

OPENS MAY 11

THE MOST ROMANTIC MOVIE OF THE YEAR!



Dennis QUAID
Scarlett JOHANSSON
Topher GRACE

HE'S RICH, YOUNG AND HANDSOME.
HE'S IN LOVE WITH YOU
AND HE'S YOUR
DAD'S BOSS.

In Good Company

OPENS MAY 11

THE FIRST FULLY DOCUMENTED CASE OF DEMONIC POSSESSION

ON November 13, 1973, police received a frantic phone call that led them to a nightmarish crime scene at the Defeo residence in Amityville, Long Island - an entire family had been murdered in their beds while they slept. The murderer, Ronald Defeo confessed to killing his parents and four siblings, saying "demonic spirits" in the house possessed him and drove him to the massacre.

One year later, the new house owners, George and Kathy Lutz and their children moved into the house thinking it would be their dream home.

What happened next inside this haunted house will shock you to no end.

28 days after moving in, the Lutzes abandoned the residence-lucky to escape with their lives.

THIS IS THEIR TRUE STORY.

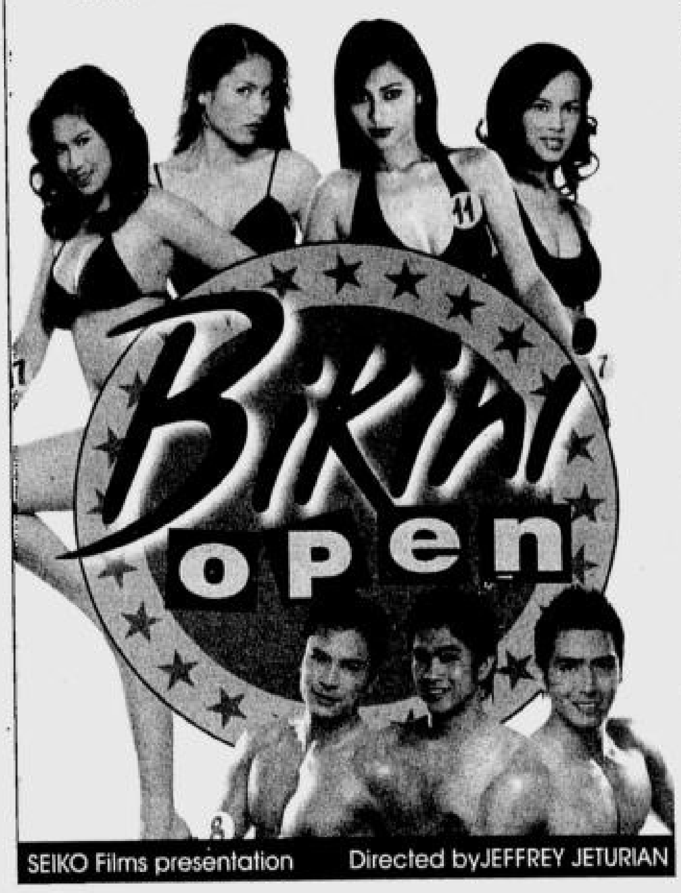
THE AMITYVILLE HORROR

RYAN REYNOLDS MELLISA GEORGE

OPENS MAY 18!

From the team that created box-office and critical-hit BRIDAL SHOWER, comes a fresh and bitingly funny satirical take on Filipino beauty contests.

CHERRY PIE PICACHE DIANA ZUBIRI FRANCINE PRIETO NINA RICCI ALAGAO
RAFAEL ROSELL ALFRED VARGAS J.E. SISON introducing ROXY RAMIREZ DARLING LAVINA
guests RICKY DAVAO MICHAEL DE MESA RODEL VELAYO TIM YAP & MARISSA DELGADO



SEIKO Films presentation Directed by JEFFREY JETURIAN

RP jr golf tees off May 17

THE SEARCH for the country's top jungolfers for boys and girls will be settled when the inaugural Philippine Junior Golf Championships is held on May 17 to 20 at the Manila Southwoods Golf and Country Club in Carmona, Cavite.

To be acknowledged as the Montecillo Cup in honor of jungolf founder and chair Amalia, the tourney serving as one of the highlights of the Samsung Jungolf Tour will feature the current crop of jungolfers battle for the title in two stages.

The first stage will select the top 16 players in the boys and girls division via a two-day stroke play tournament. Action shifts to match play the last two days.

Main sponsors are Samsung, Philippine Airlines and Unilever with Purefoods Tender Juicy Hotdogs, Titleist through Dynamic Sports and the First Gentleman Sports Foundation as backers.

Jungolf Foundation of the Philippines president Raoul Lachica said the Montecillo Cup recognizes the efforts of the lady who can be credited for laying the foundation of the golf boom in Asia.

Interested players can call the Jungolf office at 8939599 or Gay at 0917-9316091 for details.

star group of cinemas movie guide
IN DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND

starmall EDSA-SHAW
Tel. No. 726.61.50
3 Can This Be Love
4 Kingdom of Heaven
5 XXX 2
Rachel Ann Go Live
Starmall Edsa May 7 Sat
3pm Food Court (2nd level)

METROPOLIS ALABANG star
Tel. No. 850.42.85
1 Can This Be Love
2 Tagos sa Laman
3 Under Renovation
4 Under Renovation
5 Kingdom of Heaven
6 XXX 2

starmall LAS PIÑAS
Tel. No. 874.43.99
1 War Eagles
2 Rental Reservation
Free Style Live!
Metropolis Alabang May 7 Sat
2pm at the Trade Hall (4th level)

Southwoods, Navy prevail

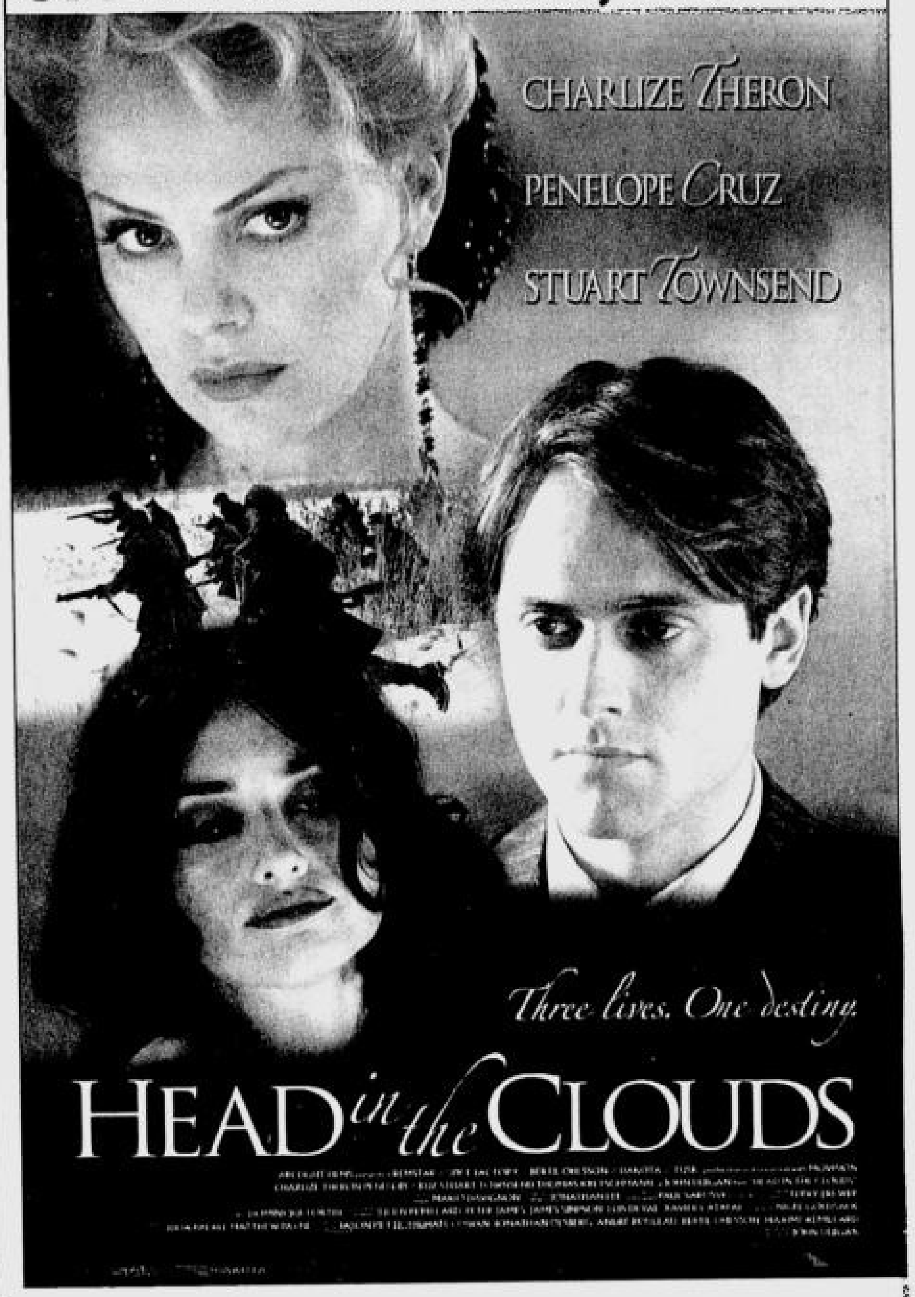
MANILA Southwoods, Philippine Navy and Sta. Elena claimed division honors in the recent kickoff leg of the 2005 Women's Golf Association of the Philippines Circuit at the Forest Hills Golf and Country Club course.

Claire Ong fired 42 points, Connie Campos and Yvette Ilagan had 36 each while Sandy Velhagen had 33 as Southwoods matched the 147-point effort of Forest Hills then won in the countback for the Class A plum. Sta. Elena took third.

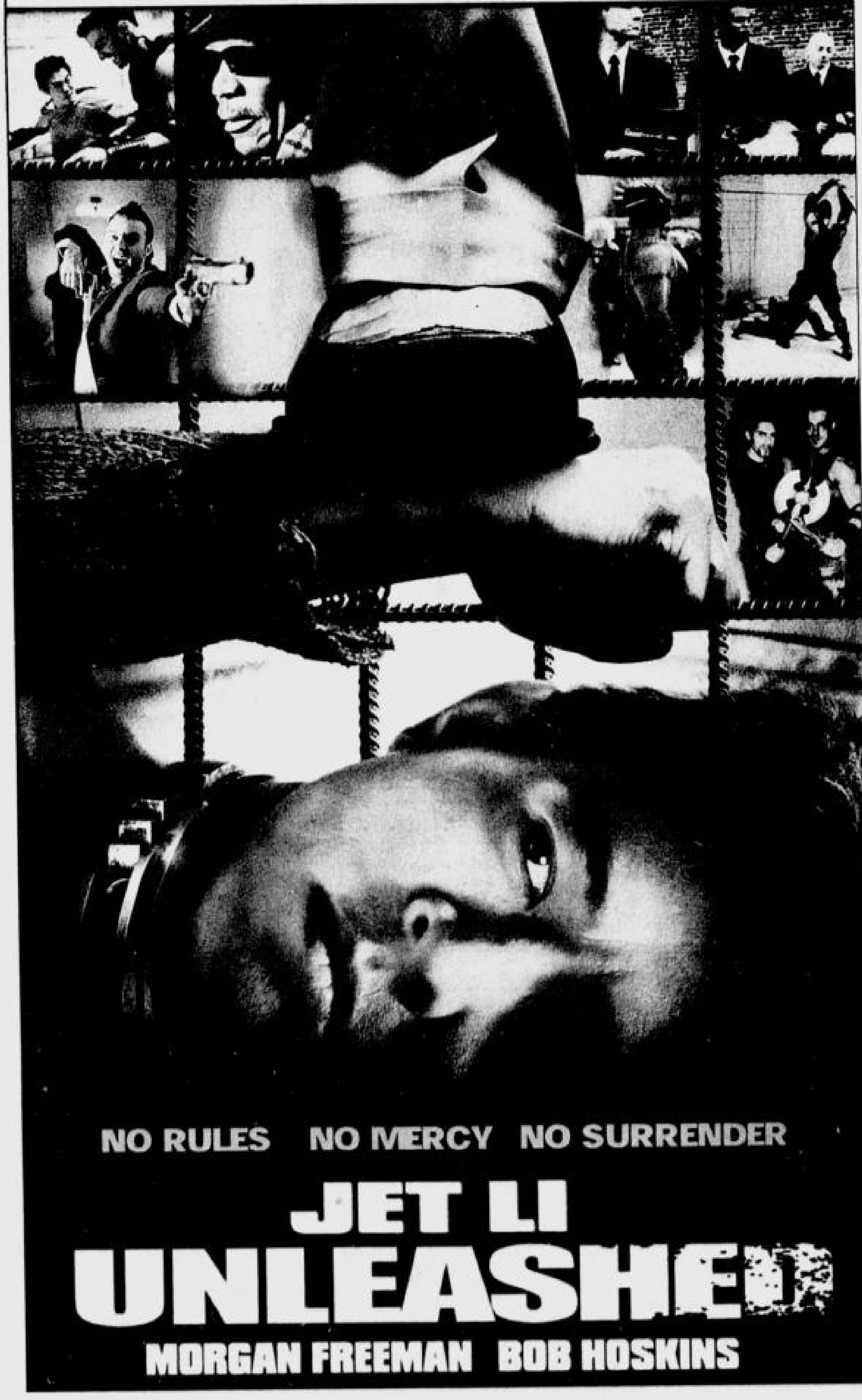
Nanie Cruz scored 44, Marietta Chan 42, Rose Torrefranca 40 and Leni Cabili 39 as Navy tallied 165 to beat Wack Wack by a stroke in Class B. Alabang finished third at 160.

Sta. Elena topped Class C with 163 points, besting the 161s of Riviera and Forest Hills. The Sta. Elena scorers were Candice Yulo, Sonia Ongkiko, Renee Francisco and Marissa Vergara.

OPENS WEDNESDAY, MAY 11!



OPENS MAY 25
WITNESS FOR THE FIRST TIME
HUMAN COCKFIGHTING
NO RULES "MAN-TO-MAN" COMBAT STAGED IN ILLEGAL UNDERGROUND ARENAS AROUND THE WORLD



STAR WARS: EPISODE III REVENGE OF THE SITH
ADVANCE TICKETS AT THE SHANG CINEPLEX AVAILABLE STARTING MAY 6!

STAR WARS EPISODE III

Be one of the first to catch the simultaneous U.S. screening of this blockbuster movie at the Shang Cineplex on May 18! Premiere screening starts at 10:00 p.m.

Advance tickets* for sale at no extra service fee from May 6, 2005 onwards. Available at the Shang Cineplex ticket counters at Level 6 and the ticket booth at Level 1.

*Selected screenings from May 18 - 22.

Come to the Streetscape at 6:30 p.m. on May 18 and party while you await this great movie event!

Regular Ticket Prices
Cinema 1 & 2 P150
Premiere Theater P295
(includes unlimited popcorn & beverage)
Call 633-7851 local 171 or
633-2227/633-4735 for details

Shangri-La Plaza

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

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FOR ALL BRANCHES

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA
632-9115/16

1 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN • THX
12:45 3:40 6:35 9:30

2 XXX 2
10:20 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

3 THE INTERPRETER
11:20 2:00 4:40 7:20 10:00

4 SIX
10:45 1:00 3:15 5:30 7:45 10:00

5 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
10:25 1:20 4:15 7:10 10:00

6 THE WEDDING DATE
12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00

7 SAHARA
1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00

8 BOSO

9 THE PACIFIER
12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

10 GUESS WHO?
12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

ERMITA
536-7809 to 12

1 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
10:10 12:55 3:40 6:25 9:20

2 SAHARA

3 XXX 2
11:05 1:15 3:25 5:35 7:45 10:00

4 THE WEDDING DATE
10:20 12:15 2:10 4:05 6:00 7:55 10:00

5 GUESS WHO?
10:20 12:15 2:10 4:05 6:00 7:55 10:00

6 SIX
11:00 1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

7 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
11:10 1:55 4:40 7:25 10:00

METRO EAST
682-8193 • 682-8199

1 THE WEDDING DATE
11:00 1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00 9:00

2 SIX
10:50 12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00

3 THE INTERPRETER
11:20 1:40 4:00 6:30 9:00

4 GUESS WHO?
11:30 1:50 4:10 6:30 9:00

5 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
10:55 1:55 4:55 7:55

6 LOVE ME IF YOU DARE
11:00 1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00 9:00

7 XXX 2
10:30 12:50 3:10 5:30 7:50 10:20

8 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
1:55 4:55 7:55 10:30

NOVALICHES
935-3229/31

1 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
2:00 5:10 8:25

2 XXX 2
12:00 1:55 4:05 6:15 8:30

3 RING OF THE NIBELUNGS
11:50 2:40 5:30 8:20

4 GUESS WHO?
12:50 3:20 5:50 8:25

5 SIX
10:40 1:05 3:30 5:55 8:25

6 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
10:20 1:30 4:40 7:50

7 RESERVE

8 RESERVE

PIONEER
687-5378

1 XXX 2
2 RING OF NIBELUNGS
3 SIX
4 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

CITISQUARE MALABON
288-2575

1 OK, KA PARE KO
2 SAHARA
3 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
4 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

CAINTA
240-4661

1 XXX 2
2 SAHARA
3 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
4 RING OF THE NIBELUNGS

Boso is the first digital film by **DIGITAL VIVA** *and is directed by the award-winning director,* **JON RED**

"BOSO, shot on a digital video, is a sexy dark comedy about Jake, caretaker of a boarding house by day and a peeping-Tom by night. In a place filled with twisted characters and absurd lives, he oversees each tenat's secrets, daily routines and private world. Jake continues "playing God" until he meets and falls for Cecilia, a woman who makes him realize the essence of beauty - unseen by the eyes. Later, a tragic accident leads to an unexpected twist and dramatic confrontation.

Starring:
KATYA SANTOS, ALLEN DIZON, GWEN GARCI, JEFFREY QUIZON

watch it exclusively at
ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD GALLERIA

Rated R-18 by MTRCB

STA. ROSA
(049) 837-0907

1 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
2 XXX 2
3 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
4 CURSED
5 PARAISO

LIPA
(043) 757-3664
(043) 312-5870

1 SAHARA
2 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
3 ASTERIX AND OBELIX
4 PARAISO
5 XXX 2

DASMARIÑAS
(046) 852-2125
(046) 416-4332

1 XXX 2
2 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
3 SAHARA
4 THE INTERPRETER
5 THE JACKET

ANGELES
(045) 892-2348

1 XXX 2
2 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
3 SAHARA
4 PARAISO

IMUS
(046) 875-3838
(046) 471-8188

1 TAGOS SA LAMAN
2 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
3 THE JACKET
4 XXX 2
5 RING OF THE NIBELUNGS
6 THE INTERPRETER

STARMILLS
(045) 875-1927
(045) 961-5270

1 THE INTERPRETER
2 SAHARA
3 THE WEDDING DATE
4 XXX 2
5 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
6 SAMARA RING 2

BACOLOD
(034) 441-0463
(034) 441-0459

1 XXX 2
2 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
3 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
4 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
5 THE PACIFIER
6 PARAISO

ILOILO
(033) 336-8070

1 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
2 XXX 2
3 THE JACKET
4 ONG BAK
5 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
6 SPANGLISH

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AYALA CENTER
GLORIETTA • Greenbelt

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

AYALA CENTER CEBU

AYALA MALLS
Lovemall!

ALOHA YO
Featuring music from Disney's Lilo & Stitch Island Favorites

AYALA CENTER
April 21 & 22 6:30 pm
April 23 & 24 11:30 am, 3pm & 6pm
Glorietta Activity Center

ALABANG TOWN CENTER
April 29, 30 & May 1
3pm & 6pm
Activity Center

AYALA CENTER CEBU
May6 to 8
11 am & 6pm
Activity Center

TOWER RECORDS

Lovemall!

Catch Lilo's summer musical show live at the Ayala Malls featuring Bea Binene as LILO, Chynna Ortaleza and Nadine Samonte as NANI, Dion Ignacio and Tyrone Perez as DAVID, Paul Salas as DANIEL. Plus the SOP boys - Emil and Yexel. Directed by Freddie Santos

At the Activity Center

GLORIETTA	ALABANG TOWN CENTER	AYALA CENTER CEBU
New Balance May 7, 2005	Watch Kuh Ledesma Live! May 7, 2005	Aloha Yo! Lilo's Summer Adventure featuring music from Disney's Lilo N' Stitch Island Favorites Album with GMA Artists May 6-8, 2005

AYALA GREENBELT

Greenbelt Theatrical Nights :
Saturday Night Fever
May 6&7 ; 20&21, 2005

GREENBELT 1 Onstage

The Hitmakers Back Again
w/ Rico J. Puno, Haji Alejandro & Marco Sison
May 13 (Friday) 8:00 PM
For inquiries, please call 891-5610

Ayala MUSEUM

Visit the New Ayala Museum located beside Greenbelt 4 along Makati Avenue.
For inquiries, please call 757-7117.

AYALA CINEMAS

AYALA CINEMAS

THX

Reserve your seats by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS GB4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.

G1 GLORIETTA 1
1 XXX 2
2 SA AKING PAGKAKAGISING MULA SA KAMULATAN
3 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
4 CAN THIS BE LOVE

G4 GLORIETTA 4
1 GUESS WHO
2 XXX 2
3 THX KINGDOM OF HEAVEN 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30 GUARANTEED SEATS
4 SHATTERED GLASS
5 THE WEDDING DATE
6 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
7 CAN THIS BE LOVE

GB1 GREENBELT 1
1 XXX 2 1:10, 3:15, 5:20, 7:25, 9:30
2 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30

GB3 GREENBELT 3
1 THX KINGDOM OF HEAVEN 2:30, 5:30, 8:30, 11:30 GUARANTEED SEATS
2 THX KINGDOM OF HEAVEN 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30 GUARANTEED SEATS
3 SHATTERED GLASS 1:05, 3:10, 5:15, 7:20, 9:25, 11:30 GUARANTEED SEATS
4 THE INTERPRETER 1:00, 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 11:00 GUARANTEED SEATS
5 XXX 2 2:20, 4:30, 6:40, 8:50, 11:00 GUARANTEED SEATS

ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER
1 THX KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
2 XXX 2
3 CAN THIS BE LOVE
4 GUESS WHO
5 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU
1 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
2 XXX 2
3 THE WEDDING DATE
4 CAN THIS BE LOVE

10 DAYS TO GO

BUY YOUR TICKETS IN ADVANCE NOW!

Visit our ticketbooths in Glorietta 4 • Greenbelt 3 Alabang Town Center Ayala Center Cebu Market! Market!

For online reservations log on to www.sureseats.com

STAR WARS
EPISODE III

AYALA CINEMAS

ARE YOU READY FOR A BRUTAL AWAKENING?
NOW SHOWING ONLY AT GLORIETTA 1 CINEMAS
MTRCB Rating: Restricted 18 (R-18)

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AN ATO M. BAUTISTA PICTURE
SA AKING PAGKAKAGISING MULA SA KAMULATAN

Customer Service text hotline: 0917 6095900
Customer Service text hotline: Glorietta - 752 7272; from 10am to 8pm
Greenbelt - 752 4853; from 11am to 12mn
Alabang Town Center - 842 2782; from 10am to 8pm
Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231 5342 loc 324

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Free Seating Cinemas: P70.00
① Six
② Wedding Date
③ Kingdom Of Heaven
④ Can This Be Love

Guaranteed Seats Cinemas: P90.00
⑤ Guess Who
⑥ XXX 2
⑦ Kingdom Of Heaven

EVENTS! EVENTS!

MARKET! MARKET!

ALOHA YO
Featuring music from Disney's Lilo & Stitch Island Favorites
May 13, 4 pm and 6 pm
Activity Center

Catch Lilo's summer musical show featuring Bea Binene as LILO, Chynna Ortaleza and Nadine Samonte as NANI, Dion Ignacio and Tyrone Perez as DAVID, Paul Salas as DANIEL. Plus the SOP Boys Emil and Yexel.

Directed by: Freddie Santos

Reserved seats on a first-come, first-serve basis for shoppers who present P300 worth of receipts on May 13.

SALE! SALE!
Time to Harvest the Best Deals
May 13 10am-9pm
May 14 10am-12mn
May 15 10am-9pm

GOZON: Quality TV

VILLANUEVA's Jesus Is Lord movement still owns Zoe Broadcasting Network.

Brother Eddie has big say in GMA 7 programs for Channel 11

By Marinel R. Cruz

ONLY wholesome shows "consistent with the tenets" of the Jesus is Lord Movement will be aired on Channel 11 even when GMA Network Inc. takes over its programming.

GMA Network recently inked a block time deal with Zoe Broadcasting Network owned by the JIL, led by evangelist Eddie Villanueva as president.

GMA 7 president and chief executive officer Felipe L. Gozon explained: "Brother Eddie is a religious person, and he owns the channel. We cannot air programs that are not wholesome."

Gozon spoke with the entertainment press at the Waterfront Hotel in Lahug, Cebu City, last week during the network's "Kapuso Cebuano Weekend."

He pointed out that GMA 7 is the only Philippine TV channel that has another VHF TV platform to showcase programs that it will produce. GMA 7 will provide technical facilities and equipment needed to operate Channel 11.

GMA 7's Citynet Marketing and Productions Inc. will produce and supply shows daily to Channel 11 beginning September of this year, said Gozon.

"Channel 11 will be called Quality TV. When we say quality, this means the same people who are producing programs for GMA 7 are the same people who will be producing shows for Channel 11," Gozon pointed out.

But he did not say what these shows would be "because we are still studying them. By June, we will have decided."

Pinoy TV

Meanwhile, GMA Network recently launched its international channel called GMA Pinoy TV. The channel airs "Eat Bulaga," "SOP," "Bubble Gang" and "Saksi."

The drama series "Hanggang Kailan" is now seen in Japan and Guam, said Gozon. "Again, this is subject to change," he added. "We are also planning to air current soaps like 'Mulawin' and 'Darna.' In the United States, Pinoy TV is offered through a video-on-demand service."

Cable and communications provider Comcast is in charge of the distribution of GMA Pinoy TV in the US.

Gozon added that "Mulawin" is now syndicated in Malaysia and Indonesia.

GIONNA SEEKS ONLINE VOTES Bb. Pilipinas Universe Gionna Cabrera is calling on Filipinos around the world for help in Miss Universe 2005's Internet voting, which determines the 15 semi-finalists. The pageant is set May 31 in Bangkok, Thailand. Gionna's father Rod, former chief of the National Electrification Administration, is a native of Camiling, Tarlac. In a provincial board resolution, Vice Governor Marcelino "Bogs" Aganon urged the whole country: "Log on to msuniversepoll2005@yahoo.com and vote for our bet."

WHAT'S INSIDE

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■ Bettinna Carlos hosts Nickelodeon awards night /A2-3

In Dennis Quaid's good company

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD
Ruben V. Nepales

LOS ANGELES—Life for **Dennis Quaid**, after Meg Ryan, is wonderful.

After his widely publicized split with Meg, triggered by her on-set dalliance with **Russell Crowe**, Dennis enjoyed a surge in his career and to cap it off, married a Texan realtor last year.

"It's fantastic," Dennis said of his life with **Kimberly Buffington** whom he married in his Montana ranch (guests thought they were invited for a weekend stay).

The actor's face looked more weather-beaten but that big wide smile often lit up his face and the hotel room during our recent chat.

Floats my boat

Dennis continued with a favorite phrase that would turn up several times: "She floats my boat." He added: "We have a great relationship. We're both from Texas and we share a lot of things in common. We bought a place in Austin (Texas) that we both want to live in and she can travel with me as well."

The fact that Kimberly is not an actress suits Dennis fine. No more of that crazy media attention when he and Meg were Hollywood's hottest couple. "It was ridiculously intrusive," he admitted. "Kimberly gives me a different kind of reality," he remarked. "It just feels more grounded. She makes me feel like I'm home."

While Meg's career seems to have cooled off, Dennis is enjoying a resurgence. Although "The Alamo" and "Flight of the Phoenix" tanked, he enjoyed successes with "The Rookie," "Far From Heaven" (as **Julianne Moore**'s closet queen husband, he won several awards from critics' groups), "The Day After Tomorrow" and "In Good Company."

Time magazine praised "In Good Company" as a "good comedy," and commended its cast—Dennis, **Topher Grace** and **Scarlett Johansson**. The film is surprisingly entertaining, one that shows Dennis coping with a new boss (Topher) who is half his age and who falls in love with his teenage daughter (Scarlett).

Since the movie deals with the youth-versus-age theme (in a light, effective manner), a reporter asked the 51-year-old Texan for his comment on ageism in Hollywood. "It's much harder for women these days than it is for men," he replied. "Men can keep on going for parts longer than women can. Certainly, there are parts that are now closed off to me because of my age. The great thing though is that there's no 25-year-old who's going to be taking my part."

"I feel that I'm doing more interesting roles and actually, I feel like I'm a late bloomer," added the actor who licked a drug addiction problem in the late 1980s. "The last four years have really been the best time of my career as opposed to what happened to me in my thirties. There's nothing like a hit movie like 'The Rookie' and a critical success like 'Far From Heaven' to give you an injection in your career."

To bring realism to his role as Dan, the father of lovely Scarlett who goes to college and falls in love with his new, much younger boss, Dennis said that he called on his experiences as dad to **Jack**, his 13-year-old son with Meg. "I'm a dad myself to begin with and I brought that to the role," he explained. "I know what it's like raising a kid. My son is 13 and it's not going to be too long before I'm going to have an empty nest as well. I'm already sort of thinking about that. I still think of Jack as my baby boy in many ways. I'm always going to think of him that way. I think that's the way Dan feels about Scarlett's character. She's his little girl and things are changing."

Touching scene

There is a touching scene where Dennis' Dan reminds Scarlett's character Alex, about a deal they made that they should always be honest and frank to each other. Alex protests that they made the father-daughter pact when she was a mere five-year-old. "Luckily, with my son, it hasn't been like that," Dennis revealed, breaking into that famous grin. "He's disarmingly open about himself, more so than I was when I was his age. I am not quite sure where that comes from but he's well spoken, to begin with. He's really open about his feelings and I am hoping that carries through his teenage years."

He laughed as he went on, "Sometimes with him he tells me

IN DENNIS/ A2-2

QUAID after Meg: "Great!"

MELISSA George, next big Aussie

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GRAINY images, gritty film. Cholo Barreto, Carlo Aquino and Ketchup Eusebio

Reality bites–sometimes it beats you unconscious, too

REVIEW

Sa Aking Pagkakagising Mula Sa Kamulatan
Directed by Ato M. Bautista
Exclusively at Glorietta 1, Ayala Center, Makati City.

By Elivira Mata and Nice Rodriguez

OUR TWO reviewers finish a large bag of popcorn 10 minutes into this in-your-face movie. Sometimes reality doesn't just bite; it beats you unconscious.

ELVIRA: If you want to know the kind of men you shouldn't bring home to mom and dad, see this movie because they're all here. Pogi (Ketchup Eusebio) swears, smokes, gets drunk and lives off his mom, who probably works as a domestic helper or a caregiver abroad. Taba (Hector Macaso) dropped out of school a semester shy of graduation and spends his days drinking beside this sari-sari store. Jopet (Cholo Barreto) has been sexually abused by a policeman named Lakay (Lito Pimentel) but he's too scared and too dumb to do anything. Kahoy (Empoy Marquez) is a jeepney barker/cellphone snatcher. Rey (Carlo Aquino) has a girlfriend but he's too weak and too unsure of himself to do anything about the relationship.

NICE: This film is dirty. If you were to compile all the repulsive Filipino words ever uttered, they would add up to the screenplay. For such a superb listing of obscene and foul words alone, this film would stand the test of time. It's a linguist's find.

ELVIRA: Although it has a longish title like "Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl," this is a far cry from Disney. It's one of those movies you should see but, in parts where it gets too violent, you have to look away.

NICE: Metro Manila renders so well on digital video. The medium is portable; thus, it can quietly penetrate the city's tight interior streets. Also, its ability to shoot in dark places helps capture the city's texture so well. The movie is like an unobtrusive tour, with a *tanod*, of an underprivileged barangay.

Owing to its digital format, the film exposes a pixilated and grainy metropolis—subject and technique effortlessly merge. Because of this compatibility, I wouldn't be surprised if we produce more films of this genre and become the toast of international independent film fest circuits. This is filmmaking straight from the gut; the market will extract more gore, more violence, more sex and more perversion from us. Question: If we do find an audience, are these all that we can tell?

ELVIRA: If government officials want to know what's out there, they should see this movie.

Government officials who want to know what's out there should see this movie

NICE: Pogi, bragging about his sexual exploits, sets the pace. The flood of cursing and rude talk is excessive and seems endless. The movie is narrated by the nerdy student Rey. He is self-conscious, plain and boring—is he really the main character? Then he is beaten unconscious and waxes philosophical. He shines doing kung fu with a bread knife, though. Pogi's gang mates include Jopet, Kahoy and Taba This movie reeks of testosterone: the gang calls each other Betlog (slang for testicle).

ELVIRA: ... not Pare, Brod or Igan.

NICE: The men try to upstage each other in alcohol-guzzling, rage, passion, wit and brutality. A fight ensues during basketball practice and even the ball becomes a weapon! There is only one main female character, Angel (Luanne Dy), who plays a superficially virginal, but secretly promiscuous, student. There is an interesting sub-plot that translates to a mini-thriller, about two she-males. The whole movie appears disjointed but, like "Pulp Fiction," miraculously comes together in the end.

ELVIRA: Yeah, my insides felt like they were going through the wringer and beaten to a pulp watching this movie. It's just too real. Maybe they should film "Survivor," not in Boracay or Bohol, but in this neighborhood.

NICE: Much credit should go to videographer Odyssey Flores and his lighting crew. Although his cigarette smoke effect becomes redundant throughout the movie, it appears like smog at night. His distant low light shots, as well as his back-lighted scenes, are excellent. Like a slide show, his series of external shots—framed by the jeepney's entrance—pulsate, making the holdup scene very powerful. While the concept of a holdupper being held up himself is hilarious, the image of the helpless victims beside a lamp post is so pathetic, I wanted to cry. I have been robbed once.

ELVIRA: I was once robbed, too, at the plasticware section of SM. I love plastic! The thief got my decoy wallet, the one with only P100. My real wallet was buried deep inside my bag.

NICE: Other remarkable characters are the eight-year-old Rugby-sniffing streetboy and Angel's God-fearing father (Bodgie Pascua), her implied abuser. The movie's musical score is austere but effective. This is not a movie for the fainthearted. The tension will make you eat more popcorn than usual, but it is a movie you carry back home and think about later.

ELVIRA: I can't get over the title, "Sa Aking Pagkakagising Mula Sa Kamulatan." In English, awakening from consciousness.

In common speech, consciousness is being awake and responsive to one's environment, which contrasts with being asleep, being in a coma, being dead drunk or, in the case of Rey, being in denial about his environment, himself, what he wants and where he is going. In the end, his environment and past experiences come to a head. He is beaten unconscious and when he comes to, he finally understands.

He has achieved the state of knowingness—*gets na niyal*—and proceeds to get even.

Fun, funny moms

CHEER FACTOR

WE ASKED some celebrities and celebrity kids: How much fun is your mom?

We were celebrating Linggo ng Wika once, in La Salle grade school. I was playing a priest in the program and my mom sewed my costume. In her excitement, she sent me off in the morning in that white *sutana*. The program was for late afternoon. It was very embarrassing, but I loved my mom for fixing me up for the part.

—**Carlo Orosa**, singer and stage actor

When my mom met this guy who liked me but whom I wasn't exactly interested in, she told him her favorite story: She strangled a dog that bit my brother, whirled it in the air, and let it fly. That guy never called back or tried to see me again.

—**Roxie**, singer-actress

After breaking up with a girlfriend, I went out with other girls and got to know some of them pretty well. This is the part where my mom intervenes. I made a 30-minute speech about this one girl, and her majestic reply was, "God-fearing?" I said, "Well..." With her "mommy look," she snapped: "Sorry!" I love you, Ma-ma!

—**Gabriel Valenciano**, dancer-band member

I'm very conscious of what I eat but during holidays like Christmas, my mom insists that I let my whole body enjoy, too, by not depriving myself.

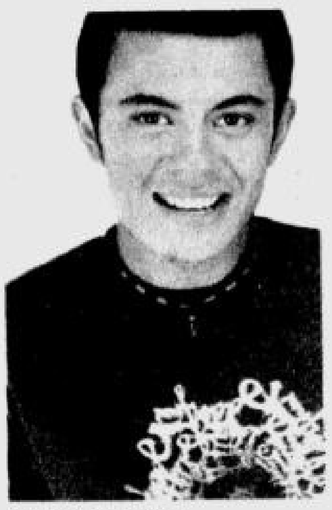
—**Micky Deles**, stage actress/host

We had just moved to Laguna from the city, and the transition was hard. My mom noticed for sure how listless I was. One day, she had a surprise for me: my very first acoustic guitar! Thanks, Ma!

—**Pipo Lina**, singer

I was fresh out of a two-year relationship and my mom tries to cheer me up with a piece of advice: "Son, don't feel bad. When I was young, I broke up with so many guys." How this was supposed to help me, I will never know.

—**Paolo Valenciano**, singer-actor



PAOLO Valenciano

ROXIE

MICKY Deles

Going Krung-Krung

TAKE FIVE

AS IF learning Tagalog wasn't hard enough, Korean import Sandara Park had to grapple with Cebuano during the grand "Daghang Salamat" promo blitz staged by ABS-CBN in the southern capital last weekend.

How was your visit to Cebu?

It was exciting because it was a big event, with a lot of big stars. At the motorcade, I was sad because it took three hours. *Parang hinimatay ako.* At the mall show, there were so many people, screaming and shouting my name. That made me happy.

Did you learn any Cebuano words?

Is this Bisaya? *Daghang salamat!*

Did you get to the beach?

It was my fifth time there. My first time was the "SCQ" fans day. The people are always warm and supportive. I was not able to go to any beach. I had no time because we had a full schedule. Maybe next time.

What other parts of the Philippines would you like to visit?

Boracay. It looks nice *eh*.

How do you feel about your new title, Box-Office Princess?

I'm happy, *sana tuloy-tuloy na 'yun.*

How do you feel about the title *Pambansang Krung-Krung*?

I'm proud. At least, I have a title.

How do you feel now that your partner Hero Angeles is being paired with Sarah Geronimo?

It's okay with me because Sarah is really one of my idols. Before Hero and I used to be known as Hero-San. Now, they'll be called Hero-Nimo!

What role would you like to play someday?

I'd like to play twins or any challenging role. Actually, I want to try everything.

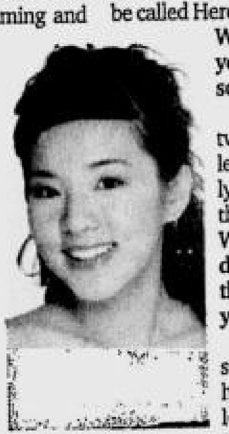
What will you be doing in Korea in the four months you'll be there?

I'm going to study while there. I hope I will learn a lot.

What is the secret of your success?

I'm sincere towards the people I work with. I'm not plastic. This is me.

Bayani San Diego Jr.



SANDARA Park

KIDS RULE! *"Kung ang* **tall** *may* **short**... *ang* **big** *may* **small**... *ang pantalon may* **shorts**... *ang* **skirt** *may* **mini**... *ano'ng meron ang* **'Bubble Gang?'** Thus GMA 7 announces its new kiddie show, "Bubble Gang Jr.,", above, premiering tonight after "S Files." Leading the cast are BJ "Tolits" Forbes, StarStruck Kids Ella Guevara, Miguel Tanfelix, Sam Bumatay, JM Reyes, and Shammel Leask. For the pilot episode, "Bubble Gang" stars Bitoy and Ogie will also join in the fun! Over on ABC 5, kiddie shows are all the rage as well. The network's "worry-free TV" campaign consists of "Chikiting Patrol,", below, 9 a.m. Saturdays; followed by "Art-Is-Kool" at 9:30. CBN Asia also launched "A.S.T.I.G (All Set To Imitate God)" yesterday.

Hallmark Mother's month on

MOTHERS' Month continues on the Hallmark Channel.

Premiering tonight is "Blackwater Lightship," which headlines two award-winning actresses—Angela Lansbury and Diane Wiest as a mother and daughter coping with Aids in the family. The third actress in this tale of multi-generational angst is Helen O'Doherty ("Noting Hill").

"Scar Tissue" debuts on May 15. It tells the story of a son grappling with his mom's Alzheimer's disease. Roberta Maxwell and Aidan Devine lead the cast.

On May 22, it's "Spin," which focuses on the travails of eight-year-old Eddie, orphaned after his father dies in a plane crash. This coming-of-age film features Stanley Tucci, Ryan Merriman, and Dana Delany.

"Dummy," to be aired on May 29, features Oscar winner Adrien Brody as an eccentric who dreams of becoming a ventriloquist. Mayhem ensues when the amateur and his buddy's punk-rock band are hired to perform in a wedding. Milla Jovovich and Illeana Douglas co-star.

In Dennis Quaid's good company and new Aussie stunner

From page A2-1

stuff and I go, hey, you know there are some things you can keep to yourself."

"A little known fact about Dennis is that he's a pilot, which came in handy when he played one in "The Flight of the Phoenix," filmed on location in Africa. "I got to do some flying in Africa," he said, beaming." I flew around these little airports. They weren't really airports." He chuckled. "They were just dirt strips so you'd have to buzz the runway to chase all the giraffes and the wildebeests off before you landed."

Another Aussie

Yet another Australian actress, **Melissa George**, is making waves in Hollywood.

I teased Melissa, who stars in the remake of the slasher flick, "The Amityville Horror," which recently topped US box-office, that there must be a factory somewhere in Australia's outback that's churning out actors for export to Hollywood.

When I pursued the subject of why so many Aussie actors are making it in tinsel town, the actress, who showed up for our interview in a cleavage-baring top, said, "A lot of us Australian actors try and come up with a good answer for that. We're very brave down there. We will try many things. We also have a great training ground there. Australia has two amazing acting schools. And we do great American accents because we grew up with American TV. I watched 'The Brady Bunch' and we've been imitating all those characters since we were kids so we've mastered the accent. And we come here thinking we can only do our best. We know we can always go back home so there's never any sense of desperation."

Creepy things happened on the set of "The Amityville Horror." This movie is based on the story of George and Kathy Lutz's family who moved into its Long Island dream house where six grisly murders took place one year earlier.

Melissa, who plays Kathy Lutz, revealed, "On our first week of filming, we got a call. I was in the middle of doing some horrendous Kathy Lutz scene and they said she just passed away, which was a bit freaky."

Since this redux of the 1979 sleazefest did well and she has several movies coming up, including one with Golden Globe best supporting actor **Clive Owen**, a reporter asked Melissa if she is worried that her 1997 Playboy Australia photos will resurface and affect her rising career.

The actress, a former roller skating champion who regularly guested on an Australian TV series that starred **Heath Ledger**, gamely replied, "I wouldn't do American nude photos because it's a bigger market. Playboy in Australia ten years ago was like GQ. My photos weren't too overly sexual... they were very beautiful photos, very tame. You're the first person who asked me about that in eight years. I don't think the photos will haunt me."

Laughing, she told the writer: "You should buy yourself a copy on eBay. I'm sure there's plenty around."

E-mail the columnist at rvnepales@yahoo.com.

Bettinna Carlos to emcee Nickelodeon awards night

By Jocelyn Valle
Contributor

BEING chosen to emcee Nickelodeon Channel's Kids' Choice Awards for the Philippines is a validation of Bettinna Carlos' decision to slow down on her acting career and pursue her original dream of becoming a good television host.

KCA is a much-awaited event for Nickelodeon viewers in and out of its base in the United States. Two years ago in the US version, Mike Myers and Cameron Diaz hosted the awarding rites for kids' Favorite TV Show, TV Actor, TV Actress, Cartoon, Book and Video Game, among others. Cameron won Best Burp in 2002, beating co-nominee Justin Timberlake, who became her boyfriend.

Last year also in the US, Ben Stiller was emcee when "The Incredibles" was chosen by kids as favorite movie and "Sponge Bob Square Pants" as favorite cartoon.

Says Bettinna, 17-year-old Star Awards for TV's Best New Female Personality (2004): "What I like about hosting is that I learn a lot from [the job] and from the people I encounter. This way, I develop my personality more." She added that her role models are Mel Tiangco and Vicky Morales.

On May 22, Bettinna hosts the Nickelodeon gig to be staged live at The Tent (The Fort). She's preparing for the event by poring over the script, she tells INQUIRER Entertainment.

"I'm very disciplined," she says. "I've always been disciplined. During tapings, I report to the set on time. I study the script ahead of time and visualize where the story's going, and even what adjustments I may have to make in case things turn out differently from what I prepared for."

Go with the flow

For the KCA, she has resolved to "just go with the flow and be myself."

She concedes that it's also important for her to have rapport with co-hosts Sam Concepcion and Marco Mañalac. Although all three hosts credit their training to Trumpets' summer workshops (Playshop), and its talent management outfit, Stages, they haven't really worked together on a major project.

Bettinna is represented both by Stages and GMA Artist Center. She's been part of several GMA 7 shows, like "Kakabakaba," "Love to Love," "Ikaw sa Puso Ko" and "Mulawin." Her only current project is "3R," a Malaysian TV original concept that deals with women issues. She shares hosting chores and ideas with Iza Calzado and Chynna Ortaleza on the late-Sunday morning program.

"I LEARN a lot from hosting."

"I like doing drama but the hectic taping schedules took a toll on my health," she says. "I'm asthmatic. Every illness that I had in the past few years was stress-related. Besides, I'm starting college in June (AB Humanities, Ateneo) so I asked my manager and agency not to give me any more acting assignments."

Sam was also one of the Playshop kids who hosted the first KCA in the Philippines two years ago. Last year, Dale Villar and Noel Villarosa were the emcees. Noel now hosts a Nickelodeon show in Singapore.

Sam is also the kid in the Maggi TV ad who bursts into song after tasting his mom's *sinigang sa miso*. His father in the commercial is his real-life dad Raymond.

Bettinna doesn't discount the possibility of following in the footsteps of Noel. "But I don't want to think about it now," she says. "I'll cross the bridge when I get there. I didn't even expect to be chosen for KCA."

No auditions

The offer just fell into her lap. She didn't audition or send a demo tape. She recalls that the only time she hooked up with Nickelodeon was last December during the network's charity project called Big Help. She remembers turning down another booking for that event, to interact with kids from public schools in Negros, the project's beneficiaries.

She must have caught the eye of the Nickelodeon people, she says. "The next time I got a call from them, it was to ask me to host KCA." Off she went then to Singapore, to meet with Garry Sinclair, Asia-Pacific director for creative and show; Syahrizan Mansor, director for programming, and Myra Moñoza, marketing and communications manager.

"I asked for a copy of the past KCA shows in the States," says Bettinna, "so I'll have a clearer picture of what's going to happen once I step onstage. One thing's for sure, the Philippine edition is going to be more interactive this year."

Asked about talk that Sponge Bob is gay, Bettinna lets out a protest: "No! The adults are the only ones who [think that way]. Children will never think of such things. Sponge Bob and Patrick are friends who hug each other and hold hands. That doesn't make them gay or bisexual. They're cartoon characters, hello! *'Wag bigyan ng* issue."

Obviously, she is a big Sponge Bob fan. "But I also like other shows on Nick, like 'The Wild Thornberries,' 'Rugrats' and 'Hey Arnold.' Now I have to watch more shows so I'll be able to relate more to the KCA."

And then there were four

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

'American Idol' in its 'final-final' phase now

LAST Thursday, the amazingly resilient survivor, pudgy **Scott Savol**, finally bit the dust on "American Idol," making **Carrie Underwood, Vonzell Washington, Bo Bice** and **Anthony Federov** the popular talent search's Final Four. Only the day before, in his characteristically cocky way, Savol had told juror **Simon Cowell** that he was so sure of surviving this week's cut that he was already thinking about his songs for next week.

Well, even super-egotistical self-confidence isn't impervious to the verdict of all those millions of text-votes the show gets each week, so Scott had to scoot!

That leaves the "final-final" phases of the tilt to the really deserving new talents—all of whom, plus the now departed and much lamented **Constantine Maroulis**, were on our list of probable frontrunners many weeks ago.

So, who'll *really* make it on "AI"? Anthony was second-weakest last Thursday, so he's got to hustle to get ahead. For all of her beauty, voice and popularity, Carrie has encountered some rough spots of late, so she has to keep competing as though her life depended on it (professionally, it does).

Now that Constantine is gone, Bo is the show's resident rocker, and his popularity has been increasing. But the most consistent hit with both jurors and viewers alike these past couple of weeks has been Vonzell, who's been praised more and more for her versatility and "perfect vocal performance." You can't get better reviews that "perfect," can you? So is the previously less heralded Ms Solomon shaping up as American Idol 2005?

Moms on Oprah

FOR several Sundays now, "Oprah Primetime" has been featuring special episodes about all sorts of mothers, culminating in its Mother's Day telecast at 8 p.m. on May 8.

First up, **Celine Dion** talked about her young daughter. The episode also featured "miracle babies," like an infant who beat the odds to live, and a baby born one year after her father had succumbed to cancer.

Next, **Oprah** went on location with 640 pregnant women, in the world's biggest surprise baby shower! Celebrity mom **Cindy Crawford** turned up like a fairy godmother bearing gifts, and **Heather Locklear, Denise Richards** and **Sharon Stone** also dropped by.

Last Sunday, the features focused on dramatic mother-child stories, like the woman who took in a child born of rape and raised him as her own; a woman who survived slave labor camp, journeyed halfway around the world, was held at gunpoint and lived through an abusive husband, just to give her son the better life she never had; and a widow who brought up six children on her own.

And, today, new mom **Gwyneth Paltrow** speaks about motherhood for the first time. And a big surprise is in store for Oprah herself.

Why not watch this special Mother's Day edition of "Oprah Primetime" with your own mom? It airs on Star World at 8 p.m. and 11 p.m., and on Monday, May 10, at 2:30 p.m.

Another Mother's Day celebration on TV is Cartoon Network's special Mamma Mia presentation of four brand-new episodes of "Johnny Bravo" and other cartoon favorites, to be shown in telethon fashion, from 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. on May 8.

Other popular characters joining the special programming event include Bugs Bunny, Dexter, Courage and the Flintstones. Viewers can also win prizes for their moms (tune in to the network for details).

CMMA 2005

IF you want to nominate an outstanding media practitioner for the 2005 Catholic Mass Media Awards, you have until May 16 to submit your entry. The requirements for TV/Cinema/Advertising nominations:

Entries must be submitted on clear and audible VCD or VHS copies, and in protective cases. For TV, five copies per entry; for Cinema and Advertising, eight copies per entry.

For series entries, the episode deemed to best exemplify the series' treatment of Christian values should be submitted.

Every tape or disc must carry a cue sheet indicating titles, lengths and category entered. Nominations must be submitted with a one-page description of the entry. Call 8674026 for more details.

Mother's Day special

THE RICHMONDE Hotel celebrates Mother's Day today with a fine luncheon buffet of international cuisine. And the dessert counter serves scrumptious cakes and pastries, with a miniature blueberry cheesecake token for Mom. Mothers also get a chance to win gift certificates.

'Mummy Dearest'

AT Shangri-La Plaza Mall at 3 p.m. today, a Mother's Day concert, "Mummy Dearest," features the Philippine Youth Symphonic Band and Cebu's Peace Philharmonic Philippines.

TIRSO Cruz III and Nora Aunor in Reno. At right, the special fan.

Guy & Pip 'Together Again' in 'Merika

THE SHOW must go on for Nora Aunor.

Epee Rafanan and the International Circle of Online Noranians (ICON) sent word—and photographs—that the Superstar's concert at the El Dorado Convention Center in Reno, Nevada (April 30), was a "huge success."

Making the show extra nostalgic was guest Tirso Cruz III, Aunor's former screen partner.

'Twas a blast from the past, with Noranians old and young reminiscing as their beloved "Guy and Pip" crooned hits from the 1960s and '70s.

Even Guy & Pip's "doll/child," Maria Leonora Theresa made a rare appearance. Actually, it was US-based comedienne Fe de los Reyes in a blonde wig.

The Philippine Consulate Choir from San Francisco shared the stage with Aunor, singing a medley of Filipino classics that served as the singer-actress's tribute to departed colleagues Fernando Poe Jr., Eddie Rodriguez, Nida Blanca, Rita Gomez, Lino Brocka, and Ishmael Bernal, among others.

Another special guest was an elderly fan who flew all the way from New York to celebrate her 95th birthday by watching Guy & Pip reunited.

At the end of the show, Aunor thanked the crowd for their "continued support" despite the "negative publicity" generated by her March 31 arrest at the Los Angeles Airport for alleged possession of prohibited drugs. She pleaded "not guilty" during her arraignment on April 21.

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Sunday BIZ
E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph
Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

YUCHENGCO today

Dragon Lady is mellowing (just a tad)

VIVIAN is proud mother to Margarita (left) and Bianca Locsin.

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

FEISTY is the word often used to describe veteran stockbroker and deal maker, Vivian Yuchengco.

Certainly not one to run from a fight, the former head of the defunct Makati Stock Exchange and director of the unified Philippine Stock Exchange has been known to call a person a crook, stupid, incompetent or a liar—among other colorful words—to his or her face.

As such, people usually give her a wide berth when she walks the halls of the PSE, and not a few would cringe during PSE board meetings when Yuchengco speaks her mind, which is often.

Yuchengco tells SundayBiz in an interview that she really does not mean to be controversial or be branded as a fighter. She is just being honest, a trait she says she inherited from her mother, who single-handedly raised her and elder sister, Connie.

"She is the 'best mom," Yuchengco says of her 86-year-old mother.

The mother

Her mother, Vicencia, was born with the proverbial platinum spoon in her mouth due to the flourishing business that her father had.

The founder of the Yuchengco group of companies, Don Enrique Tiaoqui Yuchengco, was in the construction business, among others, and listed the Post Office and the library of the University of the Philippines among his landmarks.

The spoon was yanked from her mouth, however, due to some family disagreements that forced Yuchengco's mother, who had long separated from her husband, to fend for herself and her two daughters.

She started a trading business from scratch and nurtured it through hard work and the Yuchengco flair for business. She invested what she had in the best education for her two daughters.

Vicencia managed to send her daughters, Connie and Vivian, to the International School, but that meant living in a small, rented flat in Malate, owned by the family of writer Gilda Cordero. The house was filled with cables and wires sold by Vicencia's fledgling business.

"My mother used her good name to start the trading business. She was into auto supplies, and when she went big time, our whole house looked like a hardware store. That was how she made her own money," Yuchengco says.

FIRST JOB

Though Yuchengco's mother was never really physically around for her daughters because of all the work that she had to do, Yuchengco says her mother still had a lot to do with the person she has become.

From her she learned how to be unafraid to stand up for what she believes in, to be strong and protect the name that opened doors for her in business circles. These lessons prepared her well when her turn to enter the labor force came up.

Yuchengco was just 15 when she got into Solid Banking Corp. as a summer trainee, under the tutelage of banker Wilfrido Tecson.

Yuchengco handled new accounts, opened letters of credit and saw how corporate planning worked.

YUCHENGCO sisters Connie (left) and Vivian with mother Vicencia

It was during those summer months when she met some of today's prominent names in banking circles, such as Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Rafael Buenaventura, former Far East Bank founder Octavio V. Espiritu and former Philippine National Bank president Peter Favila.

Yuchengco's first real job after graduating with an Economics degree from the Newton College of Sacred Heart in Boston came courtesy of her uncle, Alfonso Yuchengco.

THE YOUNG mother with her two daughters in the '80s

"I first joined Malayan Insurance, then to Philippine Pacific and Nomura where I learned about the stock market," Yuchengco says.

She was getting her feet wet in the stock market at the same time that she was learning to play her new roles of wife to journalist and now Congressman Teodoro Locsin Jr., and mother to first-born daughter, Margarita.

She got married before graduation amid mixed feelings from her family.

But who could resist the pull of the emotions contained in the love letters that the eloquent Teddyboy mailed her when she was still studying in the United States?

Yuchengco certainly did not, thus, she went home and had a society wedding that had two receptions—one for 1,000 people hosted by her mother, and another for 100 hosted by her husband.

Era of the docile one

When the wedding was over, the marriage—and the era of the "docile" Yuchengco—began.

"I am docile when I'm in love. That brings out my soft side. I cooked for Teddyboy. I got those law books for him and took classes in Adamson for him. In a way, I helped put him through law school," Yuchengco says.

At the same time, Yuchengco was becoming an expert in the market.

She learned all she could beside such veterans as the late Myron Papa, who taught her when to take risks, and when to pull back and cut losses.

Her knowledge of the market grew, become more fine-tuned. But not her marriage. This despite the birth of another daughter, Bianca.

After six years as a couple, and four years as husband and wife, the sweethearts called it quits.

Yuchengco, however, vowed not to do what her mother did, which was keep her daughters away from their father.

"My mother completely erased my father from our lives. I never knew him. I have no vision of him. I told myself that I am not going to do that and deprive my daughters of their father who adores them. I am glad that my daughters came out well balanced," she says.

Again, she has to give credit to her mother.

"I was lucky that I had my Mommy with me. She took care of my children. She was with them all the time. She even went to their parent-teacher meetings," Yuchengco says.

Yuchengco is proud to say that she was able to put her daughters to good schools by her own effort to grow the brokerage that she set up in 1979 when she was just 28 years old.

She bought the seat of First Pacific Resources Inc. from the Manila Stock Exchange for P1.5 million in 1979 when stocks were traded using hand signals.

She started with just a handful of clients, and at one point only had P500 left in her bank account.

But she is a Yuchengco, after all, and was lucky in business, though unlucky in love.

It was not so much the brokerage business that cemented her reputation, but her knack for getting wind of potential deals.

"One of my first deals involved the sale of Metro Drug to Manny Pangilinan who was then in Hong Kong. I would like to believe that I got him back to the Philippines in 1979," she says.

It has been 26 years since she got into the exchange and it has been a roller coaster ride, one marked by lawsuits that went all the way to the Supreme Court, heated arguments with fellow brokers that reportedly involved ashtrays being thrown during board meetings, fractious elections and major deals.

But she has no regrets and at 54, claims to have mellowed down. She is not as vicious, she says.

Tired of fighting

She is tired of fighting other people's battles, and is now looking forward to playing more badminton and spending more time for herself, now that her daughters are living their own lives.

Elder daughter Margarita is now a licensed lawyer in New York. Younger daughter, Bianca, is the writer in the family, an accomplished athlete and came back to the Philippines to work in Konrad Adenauer Foundation.

"It's funny because my elder daughter looks like a Locsin, but is very much like me. Bianca, on the other hand, looks like me but is very much her father's daughter. She acts like a Locsin," she says.

One of her pet projects these days is the Galing Pilipino Movement, which aims to propagate faith and confidence in what the Filipino can do.

"I give to that movement. It is nothing much, but it is a start. We should all be proud to be Filipinos. I am giving what I can by continuing to bring foreign investors into the country," she says.

Though retirement is far off in the horizon, Yuchengco is spending less time at work and more time pursuing her interests, such as sports, travel and charity work.

"In the end, I want to be remembered as someone who truly tried to reform the PSE and protect the investing public, in the very real sense of the world. That I was out there for the good of the industry, and not to pursue some hidden agenda," she says.

And oh, she also wants to be remembered as the Dragon Lady—one who breathed fire to the end.

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WowTraveller's top 10 hotel dining experiences, Traders travel tips

By Sandra Garcia
Contributor

THE FUN and eclectic Lemon Garden of Shangri-La Hotel Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia was one among WOW's recent top 10 dining experiences. The 375-seater Lemon Garden, designed by Adam Tihany, offers a selection of sitting areas in day-glo green and white, or dull tomato and camel. Diners can take their plates from fluorescent-lit alcoves below buffet stations. Food offerings include Chinese, Indian, Italian and Malay specialties, and pasta and dessert kitchens, all cook to order.

The service staff's brightly-colored uniforms were designed by top Japanese designer Mineosan.

In Mumbai, India, it's the brand-new Grand Central Sheraton Hotel & Towers' WG's Kebabs & Kurries of the Welcomgroup—still best known worldwide for Bukhara. Their menu has vertical listings of ingredients (vegetarian, seafood, chicken, lamb) and set horizontally across the menu, type of kebab (tandoori, griddled tama, etc.) and type of curry. This fort-like restaurant boasts a big glass-sided display kitchen.

Designed by Jeffrey Beers, Jiko—The Cooking Place, at Disney's Animal Kingdom Lodge in Orlando, Florida, in the US, was inspired by The Lion King. The twin wood-burning ovens at The Cooking Place, the onstage culinary theater is the main attraction of Jiko.

THE COOKING Place, at Disney's Animal Kingdom Lodge in Orlando, Florida, in the US, was inspired by The Lion King.

On stilts high above the turquoise waters, Raw, Huvafen Fushi on Male Atoll in Maldives, Indian Ocean, an open-sided restaurant, has its tables set with Vietnamese celadon plates and bamboo-wrapped chopsticks. Cold towels are brought wrapped around a length of lemongrass. Their freshly-baked breads come with olive oil, balsamic and butter. The display kitchen's offerings include Maldivian seasalt tomato and passion fruit-leaf salad—and olive polenta with seasonal mushrooms and rice crackers. Meat and wine are available!

The Cipriani's trendy "CIPs" restaurant in Venice, Italy was designed by architect Pier Franco Fabris. Watercolor paintings and sketches of Venice by top artists including those of Sara Schulte and Pietro Rusconi, son of the resort's legendary MD, Dr. Natale Rusconi, hang on the peach walls.

The eclectic Nina in Dubai, UAE features exotic spices, draped curtains, ceiling-hung chandeliers and a lot of action. Indian waiters, sporting saffron shirts, earrings and crazy bleached haircuts lead guests to tables laden with glass beaded mats, vine-look cutlery.

Diners at the much talked about "Made In China" at the Grand Hyatt, Beijing are treated to front row seats of its four glass-walled theater kitchens where the chefs show off their culinary showmanship. One of these kitchens showcases the apricot wood-fired duck oven, where an average of 35 ducks are cooked daily.

A traditional two-storey teak Thai house, Thiptara (magic water) in Bangkok is literally built around trees between The Peninsula and the Chao Phraya River. Patrons have a choice between dining on the second floor among the treetops or in one of the exquisite outside salas in the ground level.

The centerpiece at "White" at the Hilton Auckland is a giant buffet table shaped like a boat sculpture with a view of real-life ships and North Auckland (breath-taking).

Valerio Adami abstracts of Carnegie Hall, the New York Yankees, Radio City Music Hall and the Rockefeller Center drape the walls of the New York Grill on the 52nd floor of the Park Hyatt Tokyo.

Source: WowTraveler

Shangri-La Hotels & Resorts' Traders Hotels recently launched their "Traders Travel Tips" campaign, a compilation of travel tips from business travelers. We would like to share of Traders Travel Tips for stress-free travel:

- Scan your important ID documents and then email them to yourself, just in case you ever lose them.
- To get your choice plane seat, check in on-line 24 hours in advance.
- It's faster to catch a cab at the departure area on the 2nd floor of the Bangkok airport.
- If you want your bags to come out first on the carousel, have the airline mark them "fragile" at check-in.
- If you are taking the Airport Express from Check Lap Kok in Hong Kong, get into the fifth carriage from the front so you can catch a cab as soon as you get off at Central.
- When you land in Dubai, take the lifts from the arrival gate to the immigration floor. You'll avoid at least three escalators and beat the rush.
- On most domestic flights in China, you can upgrade to Business Class for just $30. So save yourself time and travel in style.

For travel tips you may want to share with your fellow travelers, please e-mail mtraveltips@tradershotels.com or sdg1402@yahoo.com

FABELLA Hospital's Medical Center chief II Ruben Flores hands over a certificate of appreciation to SM president Teresita Sy-Coson.

How an auction brings cheer to moms, kids

SOME P2 million raised from an auction of masks created by top Filipino artists and personalities was used to create a special place for babies.

The Felicidad Sy Activity Center and the refurbished Pediatric Ward and Pediatric Intensive Care Unit of the Fabella Memorial Hospital was recently inaugurated.

The event shows how a store opening could be turned into an activity that can help people.

For the launch of its newly renovated mall in Makati, SM held an auction of masks created by artists like Malang, Soler, Manny Baldemor, designer Cesar Gaupo, and personalities like Charlene Gonzales.

It all began last October, during the launch of the newly renovated SM Makati. One of the highlights was the mask auction, wherein top artists and celebrities very generously designed masks to help the less fortunate. Top artists Malang, Soler and Manny Baldemor; fashion designer Cesar Gaupo; celebrity endorser Charlene Gonzales; food divas Gaita Fores and Heny Sison; and the evening's hosts Tim Yap and Tessa Prieto-Valdez fashioned some of the most creative and amazing masks.

Collectively, and quite amazingly, these fetched more than P2 million.

The amount went to SM Foundation which used it to renovate, repaint and refurbish the Pediatric Ward and the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (Picu). Part of the amount was also used to provide hospital beds, bassinets and other life saving equipment for the Picu.

SM Foundation also sought to bring cheer to less fortunate sick children by donating the Felicidad Sy Activity Center with colorful murals and artwork, toys, books, and fun furniture. The Activity Center, which was named after Felicidad Sy—wife of SM chair and founder Henry Sy Sr. will make a kid's stay in the hospital less traumatic and more fun. More than that, it encourages a lot of mother and child interaction—a mom can now take her child's temperature, height, weight while the kids are playing in the room.

Those who contributed to the center include Canadian Manufacturing's Hiro Asandas and Ravi Dayanan; Colgate-Palmolive's Neneth Sadiwa; Liwayway Marketing's Kevin Ty and Ozcen Chan; Mirage International Corp.'s Naresh Mirani, and Kimberly Clark's Fernando Gomez.

Canadian Manufacturing's Hiro Asandas and Ravi Dayanan were so overwhelmed they generously donated an additional donation after seeing the Activity Center and Pediatric Ward.

Kimberly Clark's Fernando Gomez, who bid for Charlene Gonzales' mask was very happy to see how their company's donation was spent for a good cause. "I'm very happy that we were able to reach out to the less fortunate through the auction," he said. "This is one event I couldn't afford to miss."

Liwayway Manufacturing's Kevin Ty and Oszen Chan, who bid for Heny Sison's cake mask said they didn't realize how far their donations had gone and were grateful to SM for making this possible. Colgate-Palmolive's Neneth Sadiwa recounted how . Luis Niera, whom she represented, wanted to bid for an additional mask designed by Tessa Prieto-Valdez during the evening.

Other companies that made the winning bids during the mask auction included Celine Manufacturing Corp., Elson's Enterprises, Fil-Pacific Apparel Corp., Food Sphere Inc. GTV Manufacturing, Hagashi Racing Sales Center, New York Fashion Inc., Soen Garments Corp. and Watsons.

The newly opened Felicidad Sy Activity Center at the Fabella Memorial Hospital is SM's 12th such unit.

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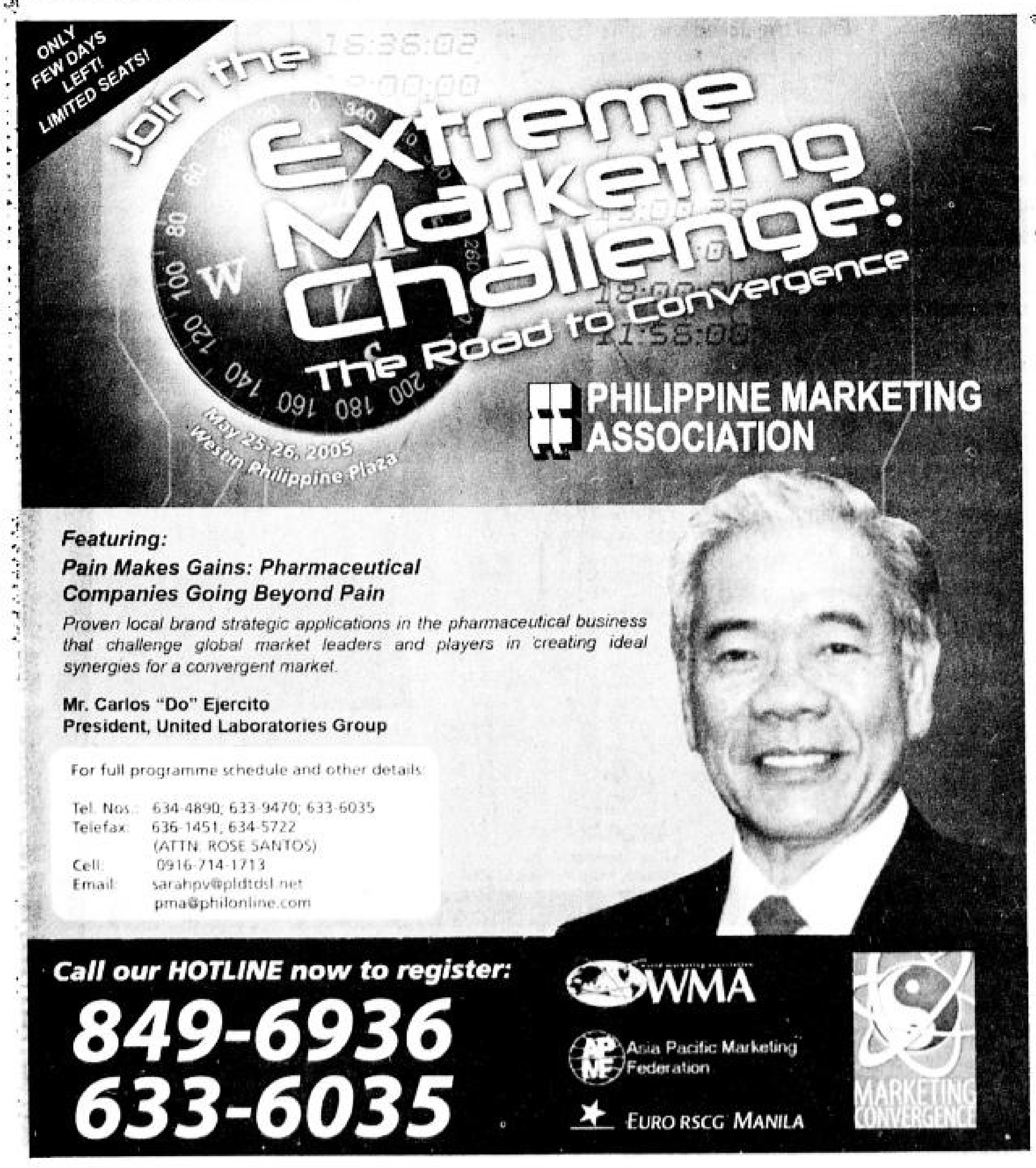
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Session Chair: **Dr. Nick C. Fontanilla**
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Keynote Address
Mr. Robert de Ocampo
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Session One:
A Business Philosophy for Extreme Marketing: Pushing Your Limits in a Crisis Economy

Speaker: **Mr. Bienvenido Policarpio**
Executive Vice President, Prudential Group of Companies
President, Dale Carnegie Philippines

Session Two:
Customer Relationship Management: Building Technology to the Extreme

Speaker: **Mr. Mark Yambot**
Director for Corporate Affairs, Microsoft Philippines, Inc.

Session Three:
Pain Makes Gains: Pharmaceutical Companies Going Beyond Pain

Speaker: **Mr. Carlos "Do" Ejercito**
President, United Laboratories Group

Session Four:
The New Empire: Shaping the Future of High-Rise Condominiums

Speaker: **Mr. Luke Tan**
Director, Investor Relation, Megaworld

Session Five:
Challenging Global Brands through Sports Marketing Events

Speaker: **Mr. Christophe Bezu**
Senior Vice President, Adidas-Salomon AG, Hong Kong

Day 2 : May 26, 2005
Session Chair: **Dr. Karen De Asis**
Marketing Consultant
Marketing Director, La Salle Graduate School

Session Six:
Mega Formulas for Extreme Marketing from a Marketing Guru

Speaker: **Mr. Hermawan Kartajaya**
President & Leading Service Officer, MarkPlus&Co.

Session Seven:
Advertising Convergence: Bringing Filipino Consumers Closer to the Brand through Humor

Speaker: **Mr. Joselito B. Ortega**
Chairman & CEO, BrandLab, Inc.

Session Eight:
The New Imperative in Today's Convergence in Marketing: Sustainable Growth

Speaker: **Mr. Gavin Coombes**
Vice President, Euro RSCG Asia Pacific

Session Nine:
Mall Mania: Shop Until You Drop!

Speaker: **Ms. Grace F. Magno**
Head of Marketing, Araneta Group of Companies

Session Ten:
New Rules in Market Leadership: Success Stories in Non-traditional Bank Marketing

Speaker: **Mr. Tomas Victor Mendoza**
SAVP, Banco de Oro Universal Bank

Session Eleven:
Creativity on the Edge: Media & Marketing Convergence

Speaker: **Mr. Nicanor C. Gabunada**
Senior Vice President for Integrated Sales & Marketing, ABS-CBN Broadcasting Company

Closing Session
The Road to Recovery through Market Convergence

Speaker: **Mr. Jose Jesus F. Rocos**
Professor, Asian Institute of Management (AIM)
President, Asia Pacific Marketing Federation (APMF)

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Philippine National Bank

NOTICE OF ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Philippine National Bank will be held on May 24, 2005 at 8:00 a.m. at the Ballroom, Upper Lobby, Century Park Hotel, 599 Pablo Ocampo Sr. St., Malate, Manila.

The Agenda for the meeting is as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Secretary's Proof of Notice and Quorum
3. Approval of the Minutes of the 2004 Annual Stockholders' Meeting held on May 25, 2004
4. Report of the President on the Results of Operations for the Year 2004
5. Approval of the 2004 Annual Report
6. Ratification of All Acts and Proceedings of the Board of Directors and Corporate Officers since the 2004 Annual Stockholders' Meeting
7. Election of Directors
8. Appointment of External Auditor
9. Other Matters
10. Adjournment

Minutes of the 2004 Annual Stockholders' Meeting as well as resolutions of the Board of Directors from May 25, 2004 will be available for examination during office hours at the Office of the Corporate Secretary.

Only stockholders of record as of April 25, 2005 will be entitled to notice of and vote at this meeting. Registration will begin at 6:00 a.m.

If you cannot personally attend the meeting, you may designate your authorized representative by submitting a PROXY to the Office of the Corporate Secretary not later than 5:00 p.m. on May 19, 2005. Any proxies so received will be validated on May 20, 2005, 9:30 a.m., at the Office of the Stock Transfer Agent at Allied Bank Center, 6754 Ayala Avenue, Makati City.

Pasay City, March 4, 2005

(SGD.) RENATO J. FERNANDEZ
Corporate Secretary

intel
PC MAGAZINE
PLDT myDSL
CyberTron

Philippine
Online
Gaming
Summit
05

Tantra • Priston Tale • MU • Khan

Wednesday, May 18, 2005
from 10am to 2am the next day
NBC Tent, The Fort, Makati City

- Play for FREE! Or compete in different tournaments to win exciting prizes!
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- Unbelievable discounts and exclusive bundles on gaming PCs and peripherals!

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Editor **Aries Espinosa**

Amacu holds biggest IT commencement exercises

ACKNOWLEDGING the efforts of AMA Computer University (Amacu) in producing 5000 IT graduates, top government officials led by distinguished Senator Mar Roxas graced the NCR South commencement exercises on May 7 (Saturday) at the PICC Plenary Hall. On May 9 Vice President Noli de Castro will address the second batch.

AMA Educational System is celebrating its 25th founding anniversary The VIP officials will be welcomed by AMAES chairman emeritus and Ambassador Amable R. Aguiluz V and president Amable C. Aguiluz IX, who will also deliver their respective keynote speeches.

In recognition of AMAES' 25th founding anniversary, Senator Roxas extolled AMA's humble beginnings as a small computer institute that has grown to be the largest ICT-based education institution providing on-line learning and the best and latest array of information technology resources. The prominent senator challenged the graduates, as products of the AMA Educational System, to attain self-actualization to the fullest and be future leaders, as they deliver quality products and services, and manifest efficiency in the ICT workforce.

"You are today's 'knowledge workers' in the Information Age and a lot of opportunities indeed await you with the phenomenal growth of the ICT industry in the global market," he said adding that with optimism, integrity and purpose, they will succeed in all their endeavors as they realize their highest and best potentials and the country's aspirations.

For his part, VP De Castro recognizes AMA's crucial role in providing world-class computer-based education that would create more opportunities for the youth, especially in job generation, thereby realizing the Arroyo administration's goals and objectives. He urged the graduates to be more aware of a world where knowledge has become a crucial element for nations to prosper. He said that in order to strengthen the Filipino's competitiveness, constant enhancement of their knowledge and skills should be aggressively pursued as what AMA is doing.

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo also extended her congratulations and best wishes to the students and called upon the administration and faculty of the AMAES to continue their dedication to academic excellence and technological advancement as they mold the youth into world-class achievers and dependable leaders.

Providing the inspiration to the fresh graduates, Ambassador Aguiluz V dared them to take the right direction in starting a career and to be more innovative in their means of achieving their goals so that they can excel in their chosen fields of endeavor. He is proud of the fact that many AMA graduates have excelled and continue to be praised around the world for being good professionals, possessing desirable traits and work ethics.

President Aguiluz IX for his part, urged the students to utilize the four gifts imparted by the institution when they move on to the corporate world namely: the Gift of Knowledge which makes human progress possible, the Gift of Conviction that steers knowledge into particular directions, the Gift of Love which tempers and guides convictions, and lastly the Gift of Dreams that is supported by knowledge, sustained by conviction and powered by love.

For this year's graduates, AMA introduced various innovations and groundbreaking programs in its curriculum such the E-Learning, which is a pioneering technology that simultaneously teaches massive number of students, utilizing the power of audio-video software and the Internet. Another innovation is the integration of Robotics in the curriculum. This is an added advantage for AMA students because this latest technology is actually being utilized in modern manufacturing and servicing industries. AMAES is also noted for its corporate social responsibility (CSR) endeavors. It introduced the AMA Assist Tuition Subsidy for Students which is intended for poor and underprivileged students so that they can avail affordable but hi-quality education.

Also to grace the occasion are AMAES' global partners such as Asia Pacific Pearson Assessments and Training vice president and general manager Kyle Uphoff, Microsoft Phils managing director Antonio Javier Jr., Yapster e-Learning Inc chief executive officer Arlene K. Yap and NCC Education managing director David Pottinger.

CDI SAKATA INX PRESIDENT DEFENDS DISSERTATION

Photo shows Dr. Bernardino Paco, president of CDI Sakata Inx Corp, being congratulated by Emmanuel Santos, PhD, chair and CEO of International Academy of Management and Economics and the defense panelists during the successful defense of his dissertation. From left are: Dr. Edmundo Quiocho, Dr. Nerza Rebustes, Dr. Emmanuel Santos, Dr. Bernardino Paco, Dr. Pedrito Salvador and Dr. Jovel Bernardo Cuaresma (candidate).

SHOP, PAY AND LOAD UP AT SHOPWISE

Shopwise gives its patrons another reason to shop at its branches via the Smart Kaha Load promo which runs until June 15. Under this promo, shoppers may now pay for their groceries, load up on their Smart or Talk N' Text pre-paid cellphones, and get a free 100g Nestea Iced Tea sachet in the same counter. All these conveniences in just a matter of minutes for all Shopwise patrons who are Smart and Talk N' Text users at the same time. Shopwise is located at the ground floor of the Festival Supermall in Alabang, at the corner of Pasong Tamo and Vito Cruz Sts. in Makati, along E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Bagumbayan, Libis, at the corner of General Aguinaldo and McArthur Avenues in Araneta Center, Cubao, Quezon City and at the Royal Duty Free Shop in Subic.

SNICKERS FREETHROW SHOOTOUT

Snickers recently co-sponsored Adidas Streetball Challenge at the Megamall Parking lot wherein one of the highlights of the event was a segment dubbed as Snickers Freethrow Shootout. Shown in left photo is Grace Erika Interino of Pasig Catholic College, winner in the Girl's Division with Goody Custodio, Adidas Sports marketing manager while on the right photo is Arnold Basada of Hope Christian High School, winner in the Seniors Division together with a representative from Adidas. Snickers support for this project is in line with their thrust in uplifting sports development and promoting Snickers as an energy bar.

PLDT myDSL
SHUTTLE BATTLE
Tournament Dates : May 21 & 22, 2005 Time : 9am to 7pm
Leveling Dates : May 7 & 8, 2005 Time : 1pm to 6pm
Venue : Olympic Badminton Club 108 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. Libis, QC
Registration Fee :
P700.00/player (1st Entry) P700.00/player (2nd Entry)
Inclusive of Battle kit w/T-shirt, Court fees, Prizes, Gi…ways, Raffle …& Awarding
Categories :
Men's Doubles, Ladies Doubles, Mixed Doubles
Prizes :
Levels Champion : P5000+Trophy
1st Runner-up : Trophy+Give-aways

SHUTTLE BATTLE 2005, PLDT SEAL PARTNERSHIP

The Shuttle Battle 2005 organizers together with PLDT AVP-marketing services, Raul S. Alvarez (4th from left) has sealed their partnership in promoting sports for better health. Registration and leveling are slated on May 7 and 8 from 1 to 6 p.m. Tournament proper is on May 21 and 22 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Olympic Badminton Club, Libis, Q.C. Photo shows (from left) Erica Pekson, Chad Luis, Sheldon Villanueva, Lia Villanueva and Jane Alvarez. Shuttle Battle 2005 is brought to you by PLDT-MyDSL, PCSO, Tape Inc, Fuji Films, GMA-7, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Smart , and Golds Gym. For further inquiries, call 0917-8458818 or 0919-4426312.

'Adopt a Tree for Life Program'

CONSCIOUS of the need to sustain tourism development in destination in the Philippines and in line with Philippine Tourism Authority's program "Filipino sa Turismo ay Aktibo", PTA has come up with its 'Adopt a Tree for Life Program" in the Tagaytay Picnic Grove, Tagaytay City.

The objective of the project is to encourage people to contribute and participate in the improvement of one of the country's premier nature parks and enhance Tagaytay City's reputation as an eco-tourism destination.

Participants are given the chance to leave a lasting legacy for their children to cherish by adopting a tree. Sponsors who wish to adopt one of the seven hundred sapling to be planted are given a Tree Adoption Package which cost P500, includes: one tree sapling, a plant guard bearing the name of the donor, the date when it was planted, the scientific name of the tree, and the bonus privilege of six months free entrance into Tagaytay Picnic Grove so that the sponsors can visit the adopted tree.

The project launch will be graced by the presence of the General Manager of PTA Robert Dean Barbers, the Mayor of Tagaytay City Abraham Tolentino and other officials of the PTA and the City of Tagaytay.

Reservations and more details for the Tree Adoption Package can be made on site at Tagaytay Picnic Grove or one can call TPG at (046)413-4206/413-0346 and 860-0216. Alice Jane Jarabe, the Tagaytay Picnic Grove resident manager can also be contacted on her cellphone number 0918-9590164 and enjoins everyone to delight in the cool park and promises a fun filled moment for those who will join the event.

Study Hall Tutorial summer offerings

STUDY Hall Tutorial and Review Center is offering individualized entrance test reviews for the Upcat, Ateneo, La Salle, UST and UA&P. The Study Hall advantage: small class size, updated materials. free refresher course, structured review, expert teachers, proven techniques, pre and post test consultation, inclusive of Physics and Trigonometry Advancement. Call 722-7180 or 724-5277 (Greenhills) 426-3042 (Katipunan) for a free diagnostic test.

Give your child the gift of reading at an early age. Children learn the letters of the alphabet best when they are associated with meaningful hands on experience: Reading Aloud (Demonstrated Reading), Guided Reading, Choral Reading, Shared Reading, Think-Along, The Listening Post, Task Control, Phonics. Joie Austria's experience at University of Washington's Brain Literacy Institute has equipped her the knowledge and system of assessing a child's learning difficulties and recommending individualized program to bring out the best in the child's learning experience. Take the first step call Study Hall for a free assessment of your child's intelligence. Greenhills 722-7180 or 724-5277 Quezon City 426-3042.

Multiple Intelligences Workshop: Let your child discover, explore, experience and develop his or her 8 intelligences. An all in one workshop. Call for a free assessment 722-7180 and 724-5277 (Greenhills) 426-3042 (Katipunan).

Bits Clips

AU(JASHS) '69 holds reunion

THE ARELLANO University (Jose Abad Santos High School) class of 1969 or AU(JSHS) '69, have just successfully celebrated its 3rd Annual Reunion last February at the AU(JAS) campus along Taft Avenue corner Buendia, Pasay City. The officers and members of the AU(JSHS) '69 wishes to call on and invite other AU(JSHS) class of 1969 alumni who were not able to attend the said reunion to join the AU(JSHS) '69 group by getting in touch with the following members: Erlinda Flores - 0919-827-1887/471-1977; Vic Ventura - 0919-740-8094/787-1830; Celia Pedro - 0916-476-8891/851-9007; Deorita Ramos - 0918-330-2509/831-8077 (AUJASC); Vicky Patricio - email vicky72451@yahoo.com; Butch Pena - email sambutani@yahoo.com.

Taal View Heights opens sports facilities

WAKE up to the refreshing views of nature's greens and blues, with the majestic view of Taal Volcano and Lake giving you a visual boost. Taal View Heights Country Homes, located at the heart of Tagaytay-Talisay, continues to spruce up to provide owners with amenities that will blend well with its exceptional view. Taal View Heights will open its door once again today to inaugurate the newly constructed basketball, volleyball and badminton courts and the outdoor swimming pool and kiddie pool in their Buena Vista Nature Park and Country Club Sports Pavilion. All guests are encouraged to bring their badminton racquets and swim wear. In addition, all guests can enjoy horseback riding and free massages while taking in the breezy Tagaytay-Talisay weather. Sunday mass will also be celebrated. Recently, Taal View Heights also celebrated the blessing of its newly constructed Sales Pavilion and Coffee House/View Deck via a March Summer Luau party. Taal View Heights Country Homes is the premier development of Ledesco Dev't Corp, "Making Tomorrow's Best Real Estate Investments Available Today", with residential communities located in Ledesco Villages, Iloilo City, Makiling Heights, Los Baños, and Guadalupe Village, Davao City. For property previews of the limited lots available, call 811-6420/830-2179 or call/text 0917-828-5449.

PEDIGREE, PHGCI IN SM FAIRVIEW

Pedigree recently supported Philippine Hound Group Club's (PHGCI) 7th and 8th All Breed Show at the SM Fairview attracting over 320 entries of different breeds. The club is the no. 1 affiliate group club of the Philippine Canine Club Inc (PCCI) in terms of the most number of entries in an all breed dog show. The event was graced by 2 international judges from Canada namely Everett Mincey and Marilynn Mincey. For more details, contact May Reyes at 0917-8850508. Photo shows (from left) Bon Reyes (president of PHGCI), Marilynn Mincey (International judge) and Henson Tan (Best In Show winner).

T'ESTIMO BY KANEBO HOLDS MAKE-UP DEMO AT RUSTAN'S

Mikiya Hirai, Japan's noted make-up artist, is now in Manila for a series of beauty demos at the Kanebo counters in Rustan's Makati, this May 6, 7 and 8 (Friday to Sunday) from 12 to 8 p.m. He will introduce the new T'estimo Spring/Summer 2005 make-up collection, the number one brand in Japan's point make-up market. Hirai who was educated in England and France currently handles Kanebo's promotion and beauty workshops in Japan. Kanebo first introduced T'estimo's long lasting lipstick in 1992, which was record-breaking and a huge success creating a new lipstick market focused on features. T'estimo continues to reap success with its moisture-rich 'Jelly Stay Rouge', the long-lasting lipstick for the 21st century in 2002. This season's featured products are 'True Memory Rouge', lipstick with amazing hold and long lasting moisture, and 'Fresh Clear Eyes', eye shadow with sparkling cream liner for large, impressive-looking eyes. T'estimo's image model is young and fresh faced actress Yu Yamada (shown in photo), who will continue to be the face of T'estimo, promoting make-up that makes a woman's smile bloom like spring flower.

Philippine Amusement & Gaming Corporation
A Global Corporation with a Global Mindset and a Filipino Heart

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
ITB NO.: 04-23-2005

The Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) is inviting all interested bidders in its forthcoming public bidding for the project stated hereunder:

Project	:	Supply and Delivery
Lot 1	:	183,168 rolls Tissue Paper
Approved Budget	:	Nine Hundred Fifty Six Thousand One Hundred Thirty Six & 96/100 Pesos (Php 956,136.96)
Lot 2	:	122,220 packs Paper Towel, Class B
Approved Budget	:	Two Million Six Hundred Eighty Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Forty & 00/100 Pesos (Php 2,688,840.00)

Only suppliers duly reigstered with PAGCOR may be allowed to participate in the bidding. Unregistered suppliers must register at the Suppliers Registration & Evaluation Section (SRES), Procurement & Property Department (PPD), 2nd Floor PAGCOR House, 1330 Roxas Blvd., Ermita Manila, Tel. No. 526-0573.

The detailed project particulars and instructions to bidders are discussed in the **Bid Documents** available for issuance from **May 4, 2005 to May 30, 2005** at the BAC Secretariat Unit, PPD-Corporate upon payment of a non-refundable fee of ***Seven Hundred Pesos (Php 700.00) for Lot 1 and One Thousand Three Hundred Forty Four & 42/100 Pesos (Php 1,344.42) for Lot 2.*** In order to secure the documents, bidders should present the Official Receipt issued by our Cashier to the BAC Secretary handling the project.

Pre-Bid Conference	:	May 19, 2005	(2:00 p.m.)
Submission of Bids	:	May 31, 2005	(10:00 a.m.)
Opening of Bids	:	May 31, 2005	(10:00 a.m. onwards)

PAGCOR has the right to disqualify any prospective bidder if found that they have submitted falsified documents and/or information, and the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to annul the bidding process, to waive any defects or formalities found therein and to accept such bid or a part thereof as may be deemed most advantageous to PAGCOR, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

PAGCOR reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract if there is *prima facie* evidence of collusion between appropriate public officers or employees of the agency, or between the BAC and any of the bidders, or if the collusion is between or among the bidders themselves, or between a bidder and a third party, including any act which restricts, suppresses or nullifies or tends to restrict, suppress or nullify competition, or if the BAC is found to have failed to follow the prescribed bidding procedures, or for any justifiable and reasonable ground where the award of the contract will not redound to the benefit of the government (R.A. 9184, Sec. 41).

Please address all communications to the BAC Secretariat Unit, Procurement & Property Department.

(Sgd.) RENE C. FIGUEROA
Chairperson, BAC 1

(PDI--May 8 & 15, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
THIRD ELEMENTARY EDUCATION PROJECT
DIVISION Bids and Awards Committee

Division of Kalinga
Bulanao, Tabuk Kalinga

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

May 8, 2005

To All Qualified Bidders:

1. The Government of the Republic of the Philippines has received a loan from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) towards the cost of financing the Third Elementary Project (TEEP) and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments for civil works component of the project. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines for Procurement under Japan Bank for International Cooperation Loans.
2. The Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) invite sealed bids from eligible bidders for the **Construction of One (1) Unit – Two (2) Storey Division Office of Kalinga.**
3. Bidding documents may be purchased at the **Department of Education, Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) Secretariat** with address at **Bulanao, Tabuk Kalinga** for a nonrefundable fee of Php 3,000.00 for each set from ***May 9 – June 7, 2005.*** Interested bidders may obtain further information at the same address.
4. Bids shall be valid for a period of ninety (90) days after bid opening and must be accompanied by a security in the amount of **2.5%** of total bid price, and shall be delivered to the **Bids and Awards Committee, Department of Education** on or before *10:00 AM of June 7, 2005,* Department of Education, Division Office, Bulanao, Tabuk, Kalinga.
5. A pre-bid conference will be held to clarify all queries and questions at *10:00 AM of May 16, 2005* at the same address. Also a site visit will be conducted on the afternoon on the same date.
6. The committee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids which shall found disadvantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) CESAR A. ADAOAG
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee
Dep-Ed Division of Kalinga

(PDI - May 8, 2005)

USAID

DISPOSAL SALE

USAID/Manila will conduct a Sealed Bid Sale of used residential furniture and appliances; office furniture and equipment; computers; scrap/junk supplies; and Chevy, S-10, Pick up on an **"AS-IS-WHERE-IS"** basis.

All items can be inspected May 9-10, 2005, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the USAID Warehouse: 2345 Aurora Blvd. (formerly Tramo St.), Pasay City (Warehouse is located between EDSA and Airport road with a big gray gate beside PITC.). Bid forms are available at the site. Submission of bids and cash deposits (20% of the total bid) can be done at the site during the sale. Full payment and bid deposit refund will be done starting May 12, 2005 at 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the USAID/ Cashier, 8th Floor, PNB Financial Center, Roxas Blvd., Pasay City.

For further information, please call Mr. Romy S. Arquisola or Mr. Alfredo Q. Daluz at Tel. Nos. 852-9684, 851-4229, 851-4234/35 and 514-4236.

(PDI-April 30 May 1, 7 & 8 2005)

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Philippine Association
of Management Accountants (PAMA)

Certified Management Accountant (USA) Review
June 18 – July 9, 2005 (Part 1) / UE Manila

Secure your future. Open up new opportunities.
Outperform the competition. Make the right decisions.

The Certified Management Accountant designation of the Institute of Management Accountants (USA) is the best way for accounting & financial professionals to achieve competency in today's rapidly changing corporate financial function. The CMA (USA) certification is the most globally accepted certification in the world with its qualification requirements and rigid standards highly respected in the USA, Europe and East Asia.

The CMA exams focus on the individual's knowledge of economics, business finance, situational analysis & decision making. The exams also test the candidate's understanding of management reporting, business analytics, behavioral & ethical issues.

The review is based on the IMA CMA (USA) Learning System with a pre & post tests at the beginning & end of each session for immediate feedback to the reviewee. Review will be from 9AM-5PM Saturdays only. Seminar fee already includes the US review materials and snacks. Group discount special rate for academe available.

RECOMMENDED FOR
- COO/CFO
- Financial Controllers
- Managers
- Financial/Investment Analysts
- Credit Officers
- Academe

For inquiries, please call PAMA Secretariat (Raul Cruz) at tel. nos. 812-9555 or 813-2751, http://www.pama.org.ph or e-mail at pama2004_mail@yahoo.com, or UE Secretariat (Norse Rodriguez) at tel. no. 735-5471 loc. 354 or 355 & telefax 735-8532

CONTENT
- Business Economics
- Financial Statement Analysis
- Cost Management
- Information Management
- Performance Measurement
- External Financial Reporting
- Strategic Planning
- Strategic Marketing
- Organization Management
- Behavioral Issues
- Ethical Considerations

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In cooperation with:

University of the East

IMA (USA) MM Chapter

PAMA Foundation, Inc.

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Transportation and Communications
CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD
OLD MIA ROAD, PASAY CITY,
METRO MANILA

IN RE : PETITION FOR DESIGNATION AS OFFICIAL PHILIPPINE CARRIER AND AUTHORITY TO OPERATE SCHEDULED ALL CARGO AIR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES TO PALAU

CAB Case No. EP-26894

PACIFIC EAST ASIA CARGO AIRLINES, INC.
Petitioner.
x---x

NOTICE OF HEARING

Pursuant to the provisions of R.A. 776, as amended, Notice is hereby given that **Pacific East Asia Cargo Airlines, Inc.** has filed with the Civil Aeronautics Board an application for designation as official Philippine carrier and authority to operate scheduled international all cargo air transportation services to PALAU. The initial hearing on the above-entitled case will be held on **19 May at 2:30 PM** at the CAB Conference Room of the Civil Aeronautics Boars, Old MIA Road, Pasay City, Metro Manila before the undersigned Hearing Officer, at which proceeding the applicant shall present relevant evidence.

The applicant is hereby required to have this Notice of Hearing published at least once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation and to cause copies of this notice and the application itself to be served upon Philippine Airlines Inc., Air Philippines Corporation, Cebu Air, Inc., and Asia Overnight Express, either by personal service or by registered mail with return card at least five (5) days before the scheduled hearing.

Parties opposed to the granting of this application must file their written opposition on or before the date of hearing, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant and appear at the hearing with such evidence as may be proper under the premises. Failure on the part of any interested party to file their opposition on time and appear at the hearing shall be construed as a waiver of their right to be heard and the Civil Aeronatics Board shall proceed to hear and decide the application on its merits.

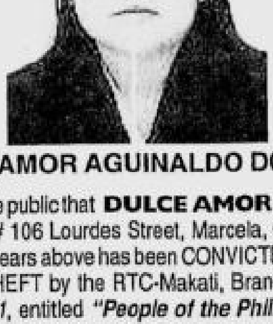
Let a copy of the petition and this Notice be posted at the CAB Bulletin Board beginning today.

14 March 2005
Pasay City, Philippines

(Sgd.) FREDERICK G. VILLARIN
Hearing Officer

(PDI – May 8, 2005)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



DULCE AMOR AGUINALDO DOLATRE

This is to inform the public that **DULCE AMOR AGUINALDO DOLATRE** of # 106 Lourdes Street, Marcela, Caloocan City and whose picture appears above has been CONVICTED and found guilty of QUALIFIED THEFT by the RTC-Makati, Branch 134 in Criminal Case No. *01-1101*, entitled ***"People of the Philippines vs. Dulce Amor A. Dolatre"***. A reward will be given to any person who will give information for her immediate arrest. Please call Ms. Eden de Guzman at (0919) 622-43-40.

(PDI – May 1, 8 & 15, 2005)

PAG-IBIG FUND

INVITATION FOR NEGOTIATED SALE

Please be informed that the following acquired properties of Pag-IBIG Fund are being offered for negotiated sale, joint venture and other modes of disposal which may be acceptable to the Fund.

PROPERTY LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	NO. OF UNITS South Sector (A)	NO. OF UNITS North Sector (B)
QUEZON CITY			
SMILE CITIHOMES Zabarte Rd., Bo. Kaligayahan Novaliches (near SM & Robinson Malls)	Condo type, Bldg. A to O / Cluster 1 to 5 / ground floor up to 5th floor w/ min. floor area 30 sq.m. typical all floors.	221	
BULACAN			
HARMONY HILLS Muzon, SJDM, Bulacan	RH-REG / RH-CORE / RH-END / RH-BARE TYPE / RH-INT with min. lot area 35 to 60 sq.m. / floor area 20 to 30 sq.m.	237	
CARISSA HOMES NORTH Sto. Cristo, SJDM, Bulacan	RH / RH-REG with min. lot area 35 to 40 sq.m. / floor area 20 to 26 sq.m.	10	
NORTHGATE PARK EXEC. HOMES, Sto. Cristo, SJDM, Bulacan	TH / TH-EU with min. lot area 38 to 60 sq.m. / floor area 38 to 60 sq.m.	10	
CAVITE			
MABUHAY CITY DASMARIÑAS Paliparan, Dasmariñas, Cavite	SA / SD / RH / RH-EU / RH-REG / 20-RH1 / 25-SA / 25-SD with min. lot area 36 to 100 sq.m. / floor area 20 to 25 sq.m.	493	
BELVEDERE Bo. Quintana, Tanza, Cavite Bo. Pasong Kawayan, Gen. Trias, Cavite	RHI-C / RHI-V / RH-REG / RH-REG-VILL / RH-REG-CON / RH-END-VILL / RH-END COR with min. lot area 36 to 80 sq.m. / floor area 20.12 sq.m.		295
SUNNY BROOKE Bo. Elang Gen. Trias, Cavite	RG-REG / RH-REG-C / RH-REG-V / RH-END / RH-REG-V WMEZZ / RH-REG-C WMEZZ / TH-VILLAROZA(R) with min. lot area 35 to 70 sq.m. / floor area 20.12 sq.m.		290
CITIHOMES RESORTVILLE Lancaan, Dasmariñas, Cavite	RH / RH-E / RH-CORE INT. / RH-INT / SA with min. lot area 35 to 75 sq.m. floor area 20 to 36 sq.m.	210	
MABUHAY HOMES 2000 SALAWAG / PALIPARAN Dasmariñas, Cavite	SA / SD / RH / RH-REG / RH-END RH-IU with min. lot area 36 to 63 sq.m. / floor area 20 to 43 sq.m.	116	
CAPITOL HILLS EXEC. SUBD. Bo. Lapidario, Trece Martires City, Cavite	RH-REG / RH-END / DUPLEX with min. lot area 39 to 75 sq.m. / floor area 24 to 30 sq.m.		105
BUKLOD BAHAYAN Tartaria, Silang, Cavite	RH / RH-REG / RH-EU with min. lot area 35 to 45 sq.m. / floor area 21 to 35 sq.m.	89	
RANCHO IMPERIAL DE SILANG, Bo. Tartaria, Silang, Cavite	RH / RH-REG / RH-EU with min. lot area 35 sq.m. / floor area 21 sq.m.		35
CARISSA HOMES TANZA Bo. Bagtas, Tanza, Cavite	RH-REG / RH-END / QDX with min. lot area 33 to 54 sq.m. / floor area 18 to 20.62 sq.m.		44
REGINA VILLE 2000 Trece Martires, Cavite	RH with min lot area 35 to 53 sq.m. / floor area 22 to 50 sq.m.	22	
ARMSTRONG VILLAGE Bo. Salawag, Dasmariñas, Cavite	RH / RH-REG with min. lot area 38 sq.m. floor area 21 sq.m.	15	
LAGUNA			
MABUHAY CITY CABUYAO Mamatid, Cabuyao, Laguna	RH / RH-REG / RH-EU / RH1 / 20-RH1 / SA / SD with min. lot area 36 to 63 sq.m. / floor area 20 to 63 sq.m.	258	
CELESTINE HOMES Marinig, Cabuyao, Laguna	RH with min lot area 40 sq.m. / floor area 24 to 40 sq.m.	20	
RIZAL			
MABUHAY HOMES 2000 BINANGONAN Darangan, Binangonan, Rizal	RH / RH-REG / RH-END / RH-IU with min. lot area 43 to 70 sq.m. / floor area 25 to 43 sq.m.	100	
SANTA BARBARA VILLAS Silangan, San Mateo, Rizal	RH / RH-INNER / RH W/LOFT with min. lot area 35.50 sq.m. / floor area 31.95 to 35.50 sq.m.	37	
MEDALVA HILLS San Isidro, Angono, Rizal	Lot only with min. lot area 90 to 200 sq.m.		11

For inquiries, please call Pag-IBIG Fund at the following telephone numbers:

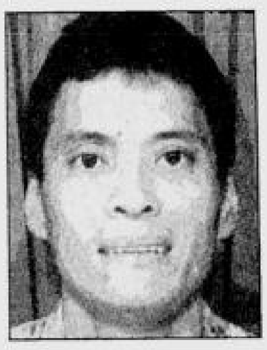
A. NCR Housing – South Sector
Tel. #848-8242 / 848-8250 / 830-0302 / 811-3900
Address: Rm. 201, 2nd Floor, The Atrium of Makati Bldg., Makati Ave., Makati City

B. NCR Housing – North Sector
Tel. #634-8344 / 834-8391 / 937-5431
Address: 11th Floor, Pacific Center Bldg., San Miguel Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City

(Sgd.) RAFAEL ODES M. ABAÑO III
CHAIRMAN,
COMMITTEE ON DISPOSITION OF ACQUIRED ASSETS

(PDI – May 8 & 15, 2005)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



JOSE YIA BENITEZ

This is to inform the public of the outstanding warrants of arrest issued against JOSE YIA BENITEZ of 1235 Mayhaligue St. Tondo, Manila whose picture appears above, under the following cases:

1. Crim. Case 05-234481 for Qualified Theft (Manila RTC Branch 34); and
2. Crim. Case 416164-66-CR for Falsification of Commercial Document (Manila MTC Branch 17)

If you have any information on his whereabouts leading to his arrest, please call 885-5252, 885-5257 or 816-3026.

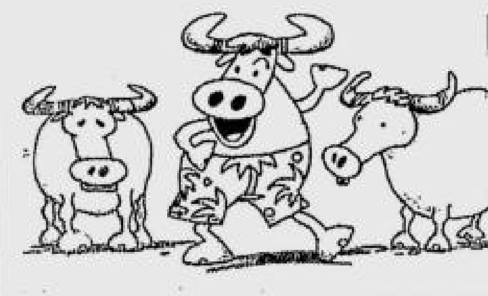
CBC MANAGEMENT

(PDI – May 8, 2005)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

ROLANDO B. SAPNAY
is no longer connected with us effective March 1, 2005
COMGLASCO AGUILA GLASS CORP.
5/F 111 Paseo de Roxas cor. Legaspi Sts.
Legaspi Village, Makati City

(PDI – May 8, 2005)



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HOLY CROSS
DASMARIÑAS
CEBU
DAVAO
(632) 815 1875 or 90
(632) 803 8374 to 77
BULACAN

Blest is she who trusted that the Lord's words
to her would be fulfilled – **Luke 1:45**

Our Loving, Selfless Mommy...

LYDIA VILLASEÑOR MONDOÑEDO

Has peacefully joined her Creator and her loving husband ***Osmundo*** *on May 6, 2005 at the age of 85.*

Her children **Douglas** and **Amor** (†), **Gigi** and **Norman**, **Baboo** and **Toots** (†), **Dodo** and **Winn**, **Puchi** and **Jack**, and **Angie** and **Raoul**; her grandchildren **Pia**, **Pao** and **Boopy**, **Guio** and **Kaye**; **Francis** and **Tweet**, **Anna** and **Tibong**, **Jong**; **Tootsy** and **Sonny**; **Jimmy**, **Weeya**, **Miki** and **Paolo**; **Gabby**, **Amanda**, **Jessica** and **Samantha**; **Brianna** and **Olivia**; her great grandchildren: **Yana** and **Carmen**; **Raine**, **Santi**, **Joshua**, **Javi** and **Mari**; and **Manolo**; brothers and sisters, relatives, staff and caregivers request the reader to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Sanctuario de San Jose in Greenhills. The funeral Mass will be on Wednesday, May 11, 2005 at 8:00 AM, followed by the interment at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina.

In Loving Memory
on the 11th Death Anniversary of

ISAIAS P. DIMAYA

who joined his Creator on May 8, 1994

His family requests relatives, friends and the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul and to remember him always in their prayers.

Holy Masses will be offered in his memory at the following churches:

Mt. Carmel Church Laoag City	May 8, 6:30 AM
Lourdes Church Quezon City	May 8, 6:30 AM
Immaculate Conception Parish Church 7211 West Talcott Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60621	May 8, 6:30 AM
St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church Scott Road, Burbank, California	May 8, 6:45 AM
St. Finnbar Church Olive Ave., Burbank,CA.	May 8, 6:30 AM
Guardian Angel Cathedral Las Vegas, Nevada	May 8, 12:05 PM
Sto. Domingo Parish Church Quezon Ave., Quezon City	May 8, 7:00 AM

"Even when I walk through a dark valley, I feel no harm.
For you are at my side, your rod and staff give me
courage..." Psalm 23:4

FELIPE VERGARA DE JESUS

(Ipe)

of Bacolor, Pampanga

peacefully joined his Creator on May 05, 2005 at the age of 57.

His loving wife **Nita**; children **Robbie**, **Chito**, **Rico** and **Sara**, **Pipo**; grandchild **Sofie**; together with his siblings **Gus**, **Nenette**, **Albert**, **Ben**, **Raquel**, **Rhea** and **Marilyn**; request the readers to pray for his eternal rest and everlasting happiness.

His remains lie in state at the House of Many Mansions, McArthur Highway, Angeles City, Pampanga.

Interment will be on Wednesday, May 11, 2005 at the La Pieta Memorial Park after the 2:00 p.m. Mass.

ANTONIO A. BALAMBAN

of Mauban, Quezon

Retired District Supervisor of Mauban South
and North Elementary School.

Peacefully joined his Creator on May 6, 2005 at the age of 84.

His loving wife **Asun**, only child **Dulce B. Felizarte**; grandchildren and grandchildren-in-law **Feanco** and **Cecy**, **Pam** and **Isko**, **Shiela** and **Quito**; great grandchildren **Patrice**, **Migoy**, **Philip**, **Dulce**, **Isabelle** and **Dbee**; sister **Corazon**, nephews and nieces, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Baltazar Chapel, La Funeraria Paz, Sucat, Parañaque City.

Interment will be on Thursday, May 12, 2005 after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at the Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque City.

On The First Death Anniversary
of the late

ISIDORO D. ENCARNACION, JR.

who passed away on May 8, 2004

His wife Fredesvinda; children Brenda, Sid, Giselle;
brother and sister, other relatives and friends
request the pious readers to pray for the
eternal repose of his soul.

Holy mass will be offered on May 8, 2005, 8:00 a.m.
at Sta. Monica Parish at Botolan, Zambales.

"Eternal life will swallow up that which can die. God made us for this very reason and He has given us the Spirit as a guarantee that we will live again."

2 Corinthians 5:4-5

MESSAGE OF THANKS

We, the family of the late

MARY JOYCELYN DY SANTIAGO

who joined the Lord on May 02, 2005,

wish to convey our heartfelt gratitude
to all those who offered masses, prayers and flowers,
visited and kept vigil, joined us in burial rites,
and in one way or the other condoled with us
and showed love and concern in our time
of bereavement.

Message of Thanks
We, the family of

Eugene R. Salazar

who passed away
on April 28, 2005

wish to express our deepest gratitude to all of you who offered prayers, sent flowers and spiritual offerings, kept vigil with us and in immeasurable ways were just there when we needed it most.

"I am the resurrection and life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever believes in Me will never die."

John 11:25-26

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

Always caring... **INQUIRER OBITUARIES**

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➊ Copy of Death Certificate ➋ Any identification document (I.D.)

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DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT
MESSAGE OF THANKS · DEATH ANNIVERSARY
REQUIEMS · FREE OBIT DESIGN

OBITUARIES

MESSAGE OF THANKS
We, the bereaved family
of the late

Lt. Gen. ROMEO REMIENDO ZULUETA

Born: September 15, 1937 * Died: April 27, 2005

Wish to convey our deepest gratitude
and heartfelt appreciation
for the flowers you sent
for the masses and prayers you offered
for the help you gave
for your words of comfort
for keeping vigil for your visits and
for attending the funeral rites.

Your kind expression of sympathy
during our moment of sorrow
shall be cherished forever.

Our dearly beloved

MARIO R. CRUEL

(4 April 1939 to 6 May 2005)

Joined his Creator on the First Friday of May, 2005.

His bereaved wife, **CARMELITA**; children **ARMAND** and **NENITA** (**Thomas Julio, Travis**), **FRANCES** and **MADS MONTENEGRO** (**Denise** and **Dino**), **GINA**, **JULIUS** (†), **MAYO** and **JOL** (**Amanda, Alonzo** and **Adrienne**), **PEWEE** and **ANDY** (**Markus, Manuel** and **Robby**); brothers and sisters **NENA, MIKE, LYDA, JUNIOR, PEACH** (†), **CHIT** and **MILA**; invite relatives, friends and his associates to join with the family at the Sta. Maria della Strada Church in Katipunan, Quezon City for a fitting celebration of his gracefilled life and the new one in his Real Home, prepared by a most loving Father.

His remains will be cremated at the Loyola Crematorium in Marikina on Tuesday, 10 May 2005 after the 9 a.m. Mass.

In lieu of flowers, the family will appreciate donations to a fund for the amelioration of typhoon victims of Real, Quezon in his memory.

For the needs of your departed Loved Ones, the following establishments can help you.

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Forbes Park, Makati City; Tel. Nos. 843-8838/30; Fax No. 843-9223
ST. ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGOURI PARISH
Magallanes Village, Makati City; Tels. 852-6228; 852-7284

• MALABON
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Tels. 2812963; 2813034; 2810522

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- Adobe Premiere Pro: Tips and Tricks

June 02, 2005
- Scanning Techniques for Designers
- Photoshop: Color Management & Printing
- Beyond Prepress: Harnessing the Power of Acrobat
- PDF Workflow and Design for Creative Professionals
- Advanced Illustrator Techniques
- Prepress Right on Your Desktop
- Print Buyers Seminar and Current Trends in Printing
- Glamour Nude & Bodyscapes Photography

June 03, 2005
- Photoshop Automation and Amazing Shortcuts
- Advanced Portrait Retouching
- Using Photoshop and Illustrator Together
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- Effective Character Design with 3ds max v.7
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June 04, 2005
- The Art of Color Correction in Photoshop
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Mother's Day Treat

Lourdes Lansangan Santiago (H) Ubalde

February 5, 1950 - January 31, 1998
We miss you, Mama!
Happy Mother's Day!
Please rest in peace.
We Love you!

Frally, Maloy, Tuesday, Shanwar

Mommy Bing,
To a cool & wonderful mon / gramy / wife
Happy Mother's Day!!
We are indeed blessed to have you. We love you!
Shing, Baby Tienne, Lowie
Daddy, First & Heart

Mommy Lyng,
Thank you for for always being there. Happy Mother's Day! We love you!
Daddy Lito, Carl & Joanne

Mama Amie,
You're the best!
Manny, Jef, Angelica

MOM'S DAY!!
AND JEOFF BOY

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!
from TOM, CECIL, ROEL, NOEL MINA, REY and from your apos Randy, Ann, Tin, ACE, Bryan, Paul, Mryel, Aubrey Jeoff, Roj, Bea , RR, CJ, Anda, Reyman, Reyniel ,Nicole
the REYNALD BELTRAN Family

Mommy Cholie, Izel, Alice, Dia, Anay, Nora, Lyn & Marife

Happy Mother's Day!

Greetings from:
Lanz, Isa, Bryan, Monica & Nathan

Happy Mother's Day
to Becky, Sonia & Juliet
Love Ate Liway

Happy Mother's Day to Mama Jane.
We Always Love You for your Caring Us.
Jeanelle & Yma

Happy Mother's Day!
Greetings from:
Techni-ice Hot and Cold Pack
@ 363-85-85

Happy Mother's Day
to Mama Liway.
We Love You
ArJ, Arnel, Arlene & Ajoie

My dear Auntie MODING FALSARIO,
You will always be my NANAY.....
Happy Mother's Day!
I love you!
Aileen

Our dear Nanay FLOR ACADEMIA,
Happy Mother's Day!
Thank you for taking good care of our children.... We love you!
Aileen and Ambo

INAY CONNIE,
Happy Mother's Day!
We love you...
Cherry, Carlo, Charlie, Charmie & Romy Reglos

My Dear Nanay Gloria Gersalia,
Thank you for being my constant source of inspiration, we love you and you will always be the BEST MOM in the world...
Happy Mom's Day!
Nonoy, Dhel, Anton and Katrina

You are such a wonderful mother to us!!!
Thank you very much
Happy Mother's Day

We Love You,
Mahar, Mara, Kano & Daddy

Mommy Marilyn,

SHE walked the world....with passion and strength, danced the floor....with grace and beauty, ...transformed melodies into stories of life.

SHE celebrated memories so we may not forget, loved us in ways that moved us deeply, ...complicated our lives with meaning.

To the mother we love so very much and to the person who completes us...

happy mother's day!!!

Oscar, Gay & Jay SAVELLA

Dear Nanay Fay,

If ther was a day for everything you have given us as a mother, it would be Mother's day everday.
We love you very much!

Fred, Zeny, Rod, Leth, Eld Lyn,
Tess, Boy, Beng, Gie, & Josie

Mama,

Happy Mother's Day!
Thank you for being simply the best..!!

We love you.!!!!

Papa, Bhing, Judes Lhopi and Bunso

A visit early in the morning
A call late into the night
All it takes to let us know
How much you look out for us.

Nightly prayers to keep us safe
Still cooking for us, guiding us
Even as we are already adults
You Never let us feel that we're alone.

For you're always there checking on us,
Thinking about us, caring for us,
And for that
We are the luckiest people on earth.

Happy Mother's Day!

Love
DonKimArnDen

Mama Gaea,
Thank you for loving us with your life, no one else compares to you! Happy Mother's Day! We love you very much!!!
Love
Papa, Tricia & Nico

MAMA MAIZA,
Happy MOTHER'S DAY!!!
YOU'RE THE BEST MOM IN THE WHOLE WORLD
WE LOVE YOU VERY MUCH!
LOVE, NEL & GELO

Mommy Emy,
Thank you for your guiding hand and for helping me be where I am right now.
Happy Mother's Day!
Love, Joy T.

Happy Mother's Day!
Thank you for all the love.
We love you very much!
Monet, Ruth, Jason, Joy

To Mommy Virgie,
Many are the women of proven worth, but YOU have excelled them all.
Happy Mother's Day!
We love you!
Allan &Janice, Totoy & Dahilia, Dzen-Dzen & Sweet, Yen-Yen, Yan-yan, Ahaine, KB & Jewel

---

Mommy RUBY,

Happy Mother's Day
& Happy Birthday!
We love you very much!
From:
Fiel, Fieleen & Bitoy Buencamino

Mamouch,
Happy Mother's Day!!
Luv Yah!
♥Kaycee & G.P.

To Lyn, Nanay & Inay,
Happy Mother's Day!
We love you!
Lanz & Ding

Nanay Ely,
Thank you for the warmth of your Love!
Happy Mother's Day!
We love you very much!
Dan, Liz, Yollie, Gil & Roland

Dear Mommy Dolly,
"Thank you for being the best wife and mother to us." "Nothing compares to you."
"We love you and we are proud of you!"
Maxine & Volt

Ching,
We love you!
From **Boboy, Jaymee, Christy, Jaanne, Randy, Jee, Bidoy** and **Shiela** and **Tictoe, Bea** and **Bononoy**

Jo,
For a great Mom
a big hug
and warm kisses!
Nannie, Kat, Jam and **Nana**

Nene,
Kisses to our wonder woman!
Loving wife and great Mommy!
Bobby, Eao and Haya

Mommy Tess,
Happy Mother's Day!
Greetings from:
Carl, Lanz, MJ, Angelica, Jun², Mekal, Jem², Jojo & Emar

Greetings goes to our beloved Mothers!!!
Mama Basing, Mama Naty,
Nanay Penny,
and to our Sisters who happens to be a Mom also:
Ate Bibian, Nancy, Lisette, Marivi, CherryPie.
We Missed you and God Bless!
-Message from Karl&Shiela

To Nanay Menie,
Wishing you all the happiness on this day.
Happy Mother's Day!
from
Tatay, Nonoy, Rodel & Ramil

Mommy,
You are the best!
From Boboy, Ching, Nanie, Jo, Nonoy, Bobby and Nene

Dearest Mommy,
I feel blessed to have found a wonderful and loving wife. 'Till we're old and grey, I will always love you.
Happy Mother's Day!
Love, Daddy

Dear Mommy,
Words aren't enough to thank you but we'd like you to know that we love you and we are grateful for the love you've given us.
Happy Mom's Day! *Love, Joy & Jamboy*

Dear Mommy,
We thank God for giving us a Mom like YOU...& nothing compares to the love you have given us. Happy Mom's Day! We love you, Jojo, Elyd, Aaron, Austin, Audrey

---

Mommy Rutchie,
Being our MOM is the greatest and priceless gift GOD has given us.
Happy Mother's Day!
We love you so much!
Baby Vaughn, Chiney, Biboy, Mark, Norma, Ryan & Roy

Six Words
Six words are not enough
To even come near to what
You have done for us

However, we hope that you would understand
That even if these are just six words
These six words come
From the bottom of our hearts.

Happy Mother's Day!
We Love You.
Sherwin, Kim & Don, Kerwin

TO: Ate Nene, Ate Meteng, Ate Luz, Ate Ogie, Ate Jea, Laura
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!!
May all of you be blessed with more love, happines and good health.
Love,
Vangie & Beth

TO: TESS GARCES, MARLA SALONGA, SUSAN OREDINA, MALOU DE LEON, TESSIE GONIO, EMMA HIRAW, JULIET ESMVILLO, NETH DONISIO, CORA ESPEJO, ODETTE ANGELES-QUIROZ
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!!
May the Lord bless you all with good health and happines...
Love,
Beth & Vangie

TO: Bella Aspren, Ann Cruz, Sharon Guevarra, Dell Ripraim, Laverne Bayan, Mag-Mag Fajardo
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!!
May the Good Lord bless you all with good health and happiness...
Love,
Tita Vangie &
Tita Beth

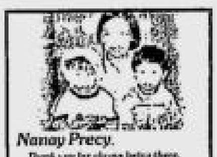
Happy Mother's Day,
Mommy Shiela!
Thanks for all the great things you did for us.
We love you always!
-Message from
Karl&Ryan

Mama Panching,
Thank you so much for your never ending love and care for all of us...
We love you!
Pat, Jay, Rina and Tery

Mommy Jasmin,
Happy Mother's Day
Justin, Jeanel & Doods

Nanay Saing Inocencio,
Thank you for loving us unconditionally.
We love you!
Love,
Dang, Tim, Poy, Nal

Mommy Arn,
Happy Mother's Day!
Love you much!
Jaivic Kenneth



Nanay Precy,
Thank you for always being there.
Happy Mother's Day!
We Love You!
Jill, James, Callel and John

Dearest Momm
You're the Perfect Mom! Thank you very much for everything.
Take care and we love you always! God Bless.
Happy Mother's Day!
Hugs & Kisses
Domeng, Bhabes & Lamar

Dear Mama B.A.
Happy Moms Day!
Love, Nicole

Mama Remy Mendoza,
Time goes by, we really admire you for being such a Super Mom in the world...
We will always love you..
Happy Mother's Day!
Nonoy, Dhel, Ba, Luis and Blanca

Happy Mother's Day to all members of Mother's Association Against Dangerous Drugs (MAADD) Pagadian City

---

Mommy Lita,
Happy Mum's Day!
Thanks for being you!
We Love You!
Daddy Lileng & Ling

Dear Mommy,
I Love You Very Much.
Happy Mother's Day
Love,
M and Daddy

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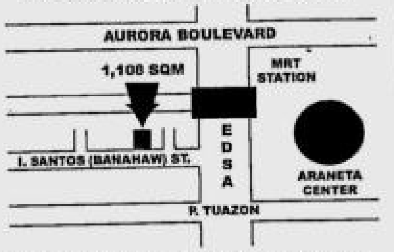

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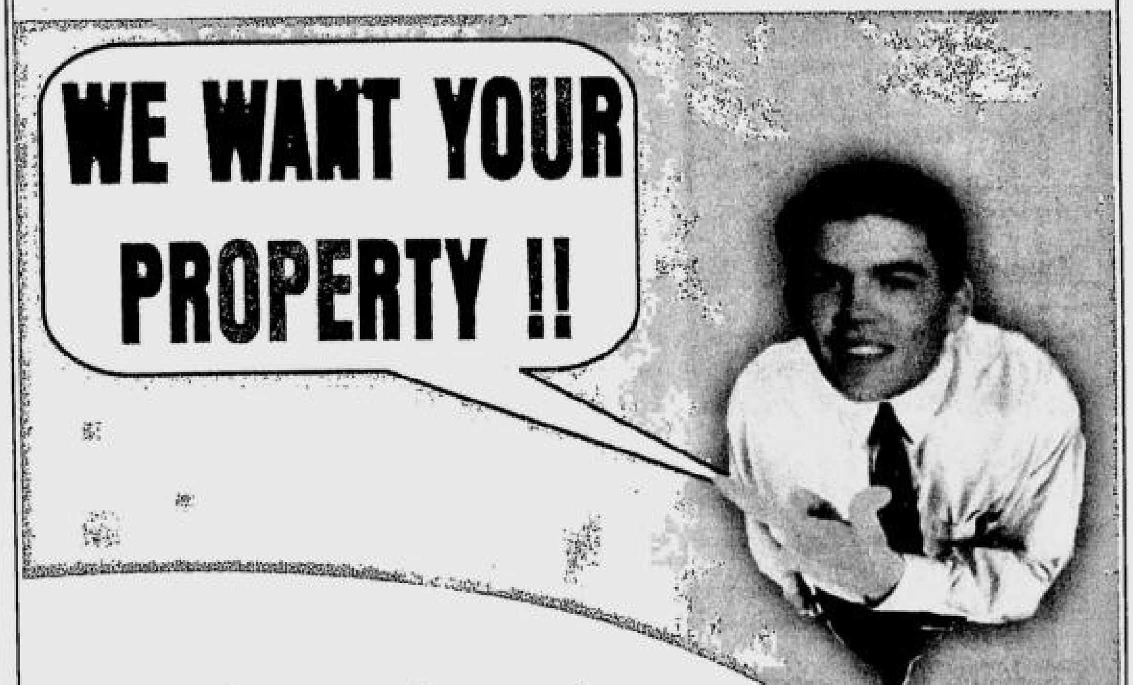
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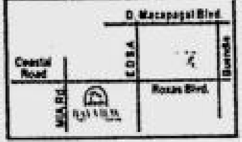
HURRY FEW UNITS LEFT!!!



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FACTORY/WHSE

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2BR FF CONDO Asia Tower Nr Greenbelt call jproxas 6584824

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GPARKPLACE 09194853180

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CONDO/TWNHSE

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P4T 9178863211/2547788

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MAZDA

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ALBAY

Lot 1 – Comm'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA3,464sqm Lot nos. 2041-A & 2041-B Along Regidor & Lakandula Sts., Brgy. Binitayan, Daraga
Minimum Bid Price P13,163,200.00

Lot 2 – Res'l. Lot LA 500 sqm
Lot 2559-H-4, Brgy. San Lorenzo, Tabaco City
Minimum Bid Price P 212,500.00

Lot 3 – Comm'l. Lot
LA17,859sqm Lot Nos.1338-A-1 to A-4 & 1340 Peñaranda Ext., Brgy Bonot, Port District, Legaspi City
Minimum Bid Price P23,543,775.00

BATANGAS

Lot 4 – Res'l. Lot LA 540 sqm
Lot 4 Malvar St, Poblacion, Lipa City
Minimum Bid Price P 2,025,000.00

Lot 5 – Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 311 sqm, FA 240 sqm
North side of Taal Cuenca National Road, Bgy San Jose, Alitagtag
Minimum Bid Price P 684,200.00

Lot 6 – Res'l Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 884sqm, FA 121sqm
Hernandez St, Brgy. II,Mataas na Kahoy
Minimum Bid Price P 2,168,657.00

Lot [illegible]
LA [illegible]
V [illegible]
WITHDRAWN
Minimum Bid Price P 2,831,340.00

Lot 8 - Res'l. Lot LA 150 sqm
L7 Victomar Subd, Brgy. 4, Poblacion, Mataas na Kahoy
Minimum Bid Price P 357,000.00

Lot 9-Agricultural Lot LA50,000sqm
Bo Pinagkawilan, Lipa City
Minimum Bid Price P11,250,000.00

Res'l. Lots, Burgos St. Lipa Royale Subd, Brgy. Inosluban, Lipa City
Lot 10 – L11 Blk5 LA 150 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 446,250.00
Lot 11 – L12 Blk5 LA 150 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 446,250.00
Lot 12 – L13 Blk5 LA 150 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 446,250.00
Lot 13 – L21 Blk5 LA 265 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 788,375.00
Lot 14 – L78 Blk5 LA 303 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 901,425.00

Lot 15 - Industrial Lot LA76,014sqm
Lot 14585 Brgy. Road, Brgy.Talisay (North), Lipa City
Minimum Bid Price P 7,601,400.00

Lot [illegible] sqm
Aka [illegible]
Road [illegible] City
WITHDRAWN
Minimum Bid Price P 5,525,850.00

Lot 17 – Res'l. Lot LA 288 sqm
L24 Blk7Anastacia St, Villa Rosa Subd,BrgyAntipolo del Norte,LipaCity
Minimum Bid Price P 604,800.00

Res'l. Lots, Tierra Vista Subd, Brgy Sabang, Lipa City
Lot 18 – L6 Blk22 LA 227.82 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 553,850.00
Lot 19 – L15 Blk22 LA 157.50 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 346,500.00
Lot 20 – L17 Blk22 LA 150.00 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 330,000.00
Lot 21 – L7 Blk28 LA 162.41 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 357,302.00
Lot 22 – L9 Blk28 LA 167.37 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 368,214.00
Lot 23 – L4 Blk27 LA 155.40 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 341,880.00
Lot 24 – L5 Blk27 LA 150.00 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 330,000.00

BATANGAS

Res'l. Lots, Tierra Vista Subd, Brgy. Sabang, Lipa City
Lot 25 – L6 Blk27 LA 150.00 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 330,000.00
Lot 26 – L7 Blk27 LA 150.00 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 330,000.00
Lot 27 – L9 Blk27 LA 150.00 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 330,000.00

Lot 28 - Res'l. Lot LA 271 sqm
Lot7 East side of existing road Bo Sta. Rita, Batangas City
Minimum Bid Price P 460,700.00

Res'l Lots, Rancho Vista Subd, Brgy Santiago, Santo Tomas
Lot 29 - L19 Blk1 LA 867 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,820,700.00
Lot 30 - L3 Blk5 LA1,011sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 2,123,100.00
Lot 31 - L16 Blk5 LA 725 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,522,500.00
Lot 32 – L44 Blk5 LA 469 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,055,250.00

Res'l. Lots, Las Villas de Aguila Brgy. Bagong Sikat, Poblacion, Lemery
Lot 33 – L8 Blk3 LA 175 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 402,500.00
Lot 34 – L18 Blk3 LA 175 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 402,500.00
Lot 35 – L21 Blk3 LA 175 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 402,500.00
Lot 36 – L22 Blk3 LA 175 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 402,500.00
Lot 37 – L24 Blk3 LA 175 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 402,500.00
Lot 38 – L28 Blk8 LA 180 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 432,000.00

Lot 39 - Res'l/Comm'l Lot
LA 5,000 sqm
Lot A-4 Tagaytay-Nasugbu road, Brgy Niyugan, Laurel, Batangas
Minimum Bid Price P 7,000,000.00

CAMARINES SUR

Res'l Lots, Monte Cielo de Naga Ph2, Brgy. Del Rosario, Naga City
Lot 40 – L31 Blk4 LA 216 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 427,680.00
Lot 41 – L2 Blk1 LA 204 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 459,000.00
Lot 42 – L3 Blk1 LA 398 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 788,040.00
Lot 43 – L4 Blk1 LA 358 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 708,840.00
Lot 44 – L7 Blk1 LA 204 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 403,920.00

Lot 45-Res'l/Comm'l Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 211sqm
Lot 745-C SE side of M. Roxas St., Bo. San Pascual, Buhi
Minimum Bid Price P 2,110,000.00

CAVITE

Res'l Lots, Tagaytay Royale Subd Ph2-A, Brgy. Malabag, Sinaliw & Kaytitinga, Alfonso
Lot 46 – L6 Blk14 LA 264 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 739,200.00
Lot 47 – L7 Blk14 LA 293 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 820,400.00

LAGUNA

Res'l Lots, Richwood Park Vill Brgy. San Francisco, San Pablo City
Lot 48 – L42 Blk9 LA 75 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 112,500.00
Lot 49 – L43 Blk9 LA 75 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 112,500.00
Lot 50 – L44 Blk9 LA 75 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 112,500.00
Lot 51 – L46 Blk9 LA 75 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 112,500.00
Lot 52 – L57 Blk9 LA 75 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 112,500.00

LAGUNA

Res'l. Lots, Richwood Park Vill., Brgy San Francisco, San Pablo City
Lot 53 – L53 Blk9 LA 75 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 112,500.00
Lot 54 – L54 Blk9 LA 75 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 112,500.00
Lot 55 – L55 Blk9 LA 75 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 112,500.00
Lot 56 – L41 Blk9 LA 75 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 112,500.00
Lot 57 – L59 Blk9 LA 75 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 112,500.00
Lot 58 – L60 Blk9 LA 75 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 112,500.00

Lot 59 -Agricultural Lot LA 5,852sqm
Lot 15006, Along Brgy. Road of San Nicolas,Brgy San Nicolas,SanPabloCity
Minimum Bid Price P 5,637,891.00

Lot 60 – Comm'l. Lot LA 4,000sqm
Brgy San Gabriel, San Pablo City
Minimum Bid Price P 18,451,100.00

Lot 61 – Res'l Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA523sqm C. Brion cor Sgt.DeRoma Sts.Brgy III, Poblacion,SanPabloCity
Minimum Bid Price P 2,133,750.00

Lot 62 – Agri. Lot LA19,820sqm
Lot 3 Along Brgy. Road, San Marcos, San Pablo City
Minimum Bid Price P 1,858,125.00

Lot 63-Res'l/ Agri. Lot LA47,096sqm
Lot 14922, 14924, 14921-C, 14921-B, Along Bo Road, Brgy. San Nicolas & San Crispin, San Pablo City
Minimum Bid Price P 10,361,120.00

Res'l. Lots, Makiling Heights Resort Subd., Brgy. Dampalit, Los Baños
Lot 64 – L30 Blk5 LA 181 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 425,350.00
Lot 65 – L32 Blk5 LA 242 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 580,500.00
Lot 66 – L9 Blk8 LA 202 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 474,700.00
Lot 67 – L10 Blk8 LA 189 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 444,150.00
Lot 68 – L63 Blk8 LA 380 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 893,000.00

Res'l Lots, Laguna Hills, Brgy. Bucal, Calamba
Lot 69 – L50 Blk14 LA 218 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 621,300.00
Lot 70 – L51 Blk14 LA 218 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 621,300.00
Lot 71 – L78 Blk14 LA 452 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,491,600.00
Lot 72 – L79 Blk14 LA 294 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 882,000.00
Lot 73 – L83 Blk14 LA 446 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,338,000.00

Lot 74–Industrial/Res'l. Lot w/Imprvmnt
LA 20,000 sqm
Brgy. Sto. Tomas, Calauan
Minimum Bid Price P 11,131,920.00

QUEZON PROVINCE

Lot 75 – Res'l. Lots LA 997 sqm
L4&5 Blk7San Antonio St, Lourdes Subd. Brgy Isabang, Lucena City
Minimum Bid Price P 1,869,375.00

Lot 76-Res'l/ Industrial Lot
LA 1,249 sqm L2-4 Blk1 Dincor Fishing Cmpd., De Mesa Rd, Brgy. Dalahican, Lucena City
Minimum Bid Price P 1,061,650.00

Lot 77 - Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 253sqm, FA 220sqm
#6 Diamond St., Pleasantville Subd, Ilayang Iyam, Lucena City
Minimum Bid Price P 1,822,339.00

Lot 78 – Res'l Lot LA 551 sqm
L32-33 A BonifacioSt,Poblacion,Pitogo
Minimum Bid Price P 125,188.00

QUEZON PROVINCE

Lot 79 - Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 3,642sqm, FA 104 sqm
Along SE side of Provincial Rd, Brgy. Malaoa, Tayabas
Minimum Bid Price P 2,079,300.00

SORSOGON

Lot 80 - Comm'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 1,293 sqm Lot no. 4 Luna Ext., cor. Rizal St. and Roxas Ext., Brgy Balud del Sur, Gubat
Minimum Bid Price P 1,293,000.00

Lot 81 - Comm'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA923sqm Lot3156.JB CinemaBldg., Burgos St., Brgy Talisay, Sorsogon
Minimum Bid Price P 8,099,036.00

Lot 82 - Comm'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 2,752 sqm Lot 5-D Luna St., Brgy Una Candol, Gubat
Minimum Bid Price P 8,256,000.00

TAGAYTAY

Res'l Lots Crosswinds Subd., Brgy Iruhin
Lot 83 – L9 Blk 1 LA 779 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 4,089,750.00
Lot 84 - L11 Blk 1 LA 952 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 4,998,000.00
Lot 85 – L13 Blk 1 LA 838 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 4,399,500.00

Lot 86 – Res'l/ Comm'l. Lot
LA 20,034 sqm
Lot 2-E, Interior Lot thru perpetual right of way, Brgy Tolentino
Minimum Bid Price P 27,045,900.00

Lot 87 – Res'l Lot LA 294 sqm
Lot 1 Blk 22 Buenavista Hills Subdivision, Phase I, Brgy. Tolentino
Minimum Bid Price P 846,900.00

Res'l Lots, Tropical Green Subd Brgy Patutong Malaki
Lot 88 – L6 Blk 5 LA 246 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 934,800.00
Lot 89 – L5 Blk 8-A LA 254 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 965,200.00
Lot 90 – L7 Blk 9 LA 252 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 957,600.00
Lot 91 – L9 Blk 9 LA 252 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 957,600.00
Lot 92 – L13 Blk 9 LA 270 sqm
Minimum Bid Price P 1,026,000.00

PARAÑAQUE CITY

Lot 93 –Res'l. Condo FA 186 sqm
Unit1404 Chateau de Baie Condo Roxas Blvd cor Airport Rd, Baclaran (near airport)
Minimum Bid Price P 3,903,270.00

Lot 94 – Res'l. Lot LA 356 sqm
Lot12 Blk14 Cadena de Amor St,United Parañaque 4, San Dionisio
Minimum Bid Price P 1,330,000.00

Lot 95 –Res'l Condo FA 136 sqm
Unit301 Makati South Hills Arcade,East ServiceRd.Brgy Balagbag (near airport)
Minimum Bid Price P 2,317,270.00

QUEZON CITY

Lot 96 -Res'l. Twnhse LA118.39sqm
Unit4-A Alpha Victoria Homes 14th St cor Victoria Ave, Brgy. Damayan Lagi New Manila (near St. Luke's Hosp.)
Minimum Bid Price P 7,224,000.00

Lot 97 - Res'l. Lot w/ Imprvmnt
LA 77 sqm, FA 97.50 sqm
Rd Lot 649-C-4-A-2 Towerville Homes Brgy Culiat (near UP)
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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

ROBERT J. MADRID

The Metropolitan Trial Court of Mandaluyong City Branch 60 has issued a warrant of arrest for Robert J. Madrid. The accused has a pending criminal case No. 90778-81 for violation of BP 22. If you have any information of his whereabouts pls. call 829-0102 to 06 or send information to # 205 Aguirre Ave., BF Homes, Parañaque City

(PDI – May 8, 2005)

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We are looking for a highly competent and motivated person to join and support our team based at the East Asia Regional Office (EARO) in **Phnom Penh, Cambodia.**

Regional Program Officer:
Mekong River Basin Management Program Northern Uplands

The Regional Program Officer (RPO) provides management support for EARO's Mekong River Basin Management (MRBM) Program. The RPO is charged with responsibility through a team-based approach for program delivery of the Northern Uplands (NE Thailand/NW Laos/Yunnan, China) portfolio, which includes grant management, partner relations, monitoring and evaluation, and advocacy.

Qualifications

Required:
- ☐ A master's degree in development, social or environmental science
- ☐ At least five years demonstrable experience with considerable field experience in Natural Resource Management and community development within the S.E. Asia region
- ☐ Strong understanding of and analytical skills on sustainable development issues
- ☐ Strong understanding and proven experience in social and/or environmental justice, rights and globalization issues
- ☐ Demonstrable experience in conducting or facilitating participatory policy dialogue processes from grassroots to national/transboundary levels.
- ☐ An excellent command of written and spoken English

Preferred:
- ☐ Experience in River Basin Management and development
- ☐ Demonstrable experience and skills in program management and conducting effective monitoring and evaluation of projects
- ☐ Field and/or policy experience on community rights issues
- ☐ An understanding of gender issues and demonstrable experience in applying gender analysis, planning and evaluation in programs
- ☐ Comprehensive computer skills; fully conversant with Microsoft Office software
- ☐ Knowledge of the Mekong Region, especially the government and political systems
- ☐ Knowledge of one Mekong region language will be advantage

The post is open for all nationals. Start date is **September 1, 2005** at the latest. A one-year contract is offered, with the possibility for annual renewal.

Interested candidates are invited to send by email a CV, cover letter stating current and expected salary, and a writing sample on a relevant topic in English (no more than 5 pages) to eastasia@oxfamamerica.org, no later than **May 23rd, 2005.** Please write in the subject heading "APPLICATION FOR MRBM RPO POSITION"

Full job description (JD) of the position can be obtained on request by contacting eastasia@oxfamamerica.org.

NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY
REGIONAL OFFICE NO. VIII
PAWING, PALO, LEYTE
Tel. Nos. (053-323-3075, 323-3084) • Fax No. 053-323-3061

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
FOR GRAINS HAULING/TRUCKING SERVICES FOR NFA, REGION VIII

The National Food Authority, Regional Office VIII, Pawing, Palo, Leyte invites qualified grains hauling/trucking service contractors to apply for eligibility and to bid for provision of hauling/trucking for the Calendar Year 2005 in the transfer of stocks from source to its identified NFA Warehouses with their Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) as follows:

PROVINCE	ROUTE		DISTANCE (Km)	ESTD. NO. OF BAGS	APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE CONTRACT
	Source	Destination			
*N. Leyte	Tacloban Port	Port Area Whse	0.50	30,000	P 120,000.00
		Alangalang Whse	28.0	100,000	567,000.00
		Naval, Biliran	123.0	2,000	39,360.00
		Guiuan, E. Samar	149.0	3,200	76,288.00
		Borongan, E.S.	188.4	2,000	58,460.00
		Oras, E. Samar	177.5	2,000	55,080.00
		Catbalogan	106.5	2,000	33,920.00
		Maasin	185.5	2,000	57,560.00
		Ormoc	109.0	2,000	34,880.00
	Ormoc Port	Ormoc Whse	1.2	15,000	60,000.00
		Baybay Whse	47.0	1,200	11,136.00
S. Leyte	Maasin Port	Maasin Whse	2.5	60,000	240,000.00
	Maasin Whse	Baybay Whse	78.5	1,200	18,264.00
		Hilongos Whse	44.0	1,200	10,428.00
	Baybay Port	Baybay Whse	2.0	25,000	100,000.00
		Hilongos Whse	41.5	1,200	9,840.00
Biliran	Naval Port	Naval Whse	2.0	40,000	160,000.00
W. Samar	Catbalogan Port	Catbalogan Whse	1.0	80,000	320,000.00
	Calbayog Port	Calbayog Whse	1.0	25,000	100,000.00
	Calbayog Whse	Bobon Whse, N.S.	107.5	2,000	34,400.00
	Catbalogan	Oras, E. Samar	121.0	10,000	193,600.00
		Borongan Whse	131.9	2,000	42,200.00
		Calbayog Whse	69.0	2,000	26,760.00
N. Samar	Sn Jose Port	Bobon Whse	7.5	30,000	120,000.00
		Rawis Whse	63.0	30,000	366,600.00
		Catubig Whse	84.0	10,000	162,900.00
		Victoria Leased	36.0	5,000	34,900.00
		TOTAL		486,000	P3,053,576.00

The Application forms, eligibility requirements and other bid documents shall be obtained from the Regional Bids and Award Committee (RBAC) Secretariat after payment of a non-transferable/non-refundable bidding fee in the amount of Three Thousand Pesos Only (P3,000.00).

The schedule of bidding activities are as follows:

Activity	Date
Issuance of Registration, Eligibility & Bid Documents	May 10-19, 2005 (8:00 am-5:00 pm)
Deadline for Submission of Required Registration & Eligibility Documents	May 23, 2005 (5:00 pm)
Issuance of Certificate of Registration and Notice of Eligibility	May 30, 2005 (8:00 am-5:00 pm)
Pre-Bidding Conference (NFA-RO8 Conference Rm)	June 1, 2005 (2:00 pm)
Submission and Opening of Bids (NFA-RO8 Conference Rm)	June 13, 2005 (9:30 am)

Interested bidder should at least meet the minimum requirement of TH trucks as required per province as follows:

N. LEYTE – 8 units: 10-wheeler trucks
S. LEYTE – 6 units: 6-wheeler trucks
BILIRAN – 6 units: 6-wheeler trucks
W. SAMAR – 5 units: 3-units 10-wheeler trucks and 2 units 6-wheeler trucks
N. SAMAR – 5 units: 2-units 10-wheeler trucks and 3 units 6-wheeler trucks

In case bidder does not meet the required minimum number of units of TH trucks, NFA may accept back-to-back Letter of Agreement with other TH owners/operators to be listed under the bidder's fleet.

A Special Power of Attorney (SPA) issued by the Prospective bidder owner (for sole Proprietorship) and/or Resolution from the Board authorizing their representative (for Corporations) to purchase the bid documents, to sign for and in behalf of the owner/corporation whatever documents relative to the bidding and to attend the pre-bidding conference and during the opening of the bids shall be required.

NFA reserves the right to reject any or all bids thereof, to waive any formalities or defects found therein, or to accept such bids or award to any Contractor whose Bid is considered most advantageous to the National Food Authority or to the government.

(Sgd.) ANTONIO J. ADORABLE
Asst. Regional Manager/Chairman-RBAC, NFA-RO8

(PDI–May 8 & 14, 2005)

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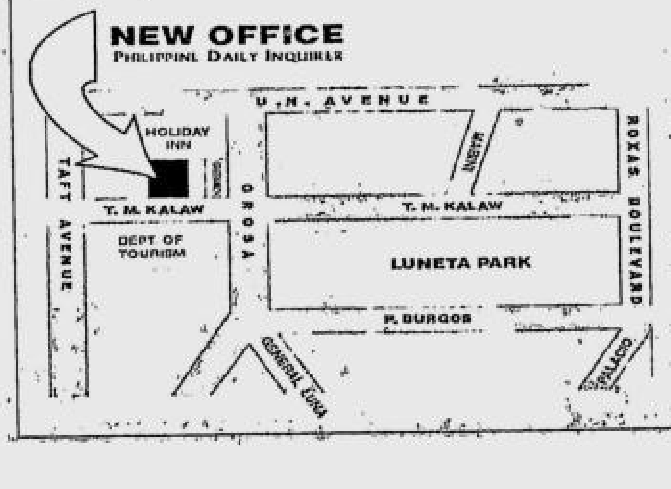

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daughter of **Adoracion Burgos Bolido**

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Sunday
LIFESTYLE

SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2005 C1

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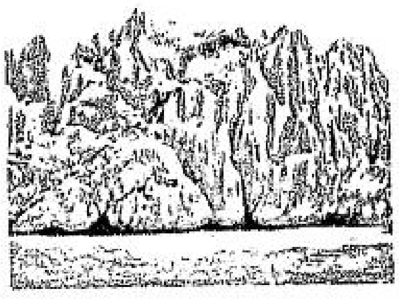
Inquirer life name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) and 386 (Smart)
or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Editor **Chelo Banal-Formoso,**
daughter of **Jovencia Rojas Banal**

Unconventional Moms

SUNDAY Lifestyle pays tribute to mothers of all conditions and climates, especially in the direst straits and the most unorthodox of settings. Women who give justice to maternity against all odds prove that motherhood comes naturally to Filipinas

IN THIS ISSUE



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KNIGHTS of heaven /M1

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PLDT

Singularly single but a parent

By Alex Y. Vergara,
son of Gilda Yatco Vergara

SEVERAL years ago, Mila Alora drove alone in the dead of night through the streets of Manila searching for a bottle of *aceite de manzanilla*.

The emerald-green oil is a popular remedy for gas pains, though she did not know that until a neighbor swore by its efficacy.

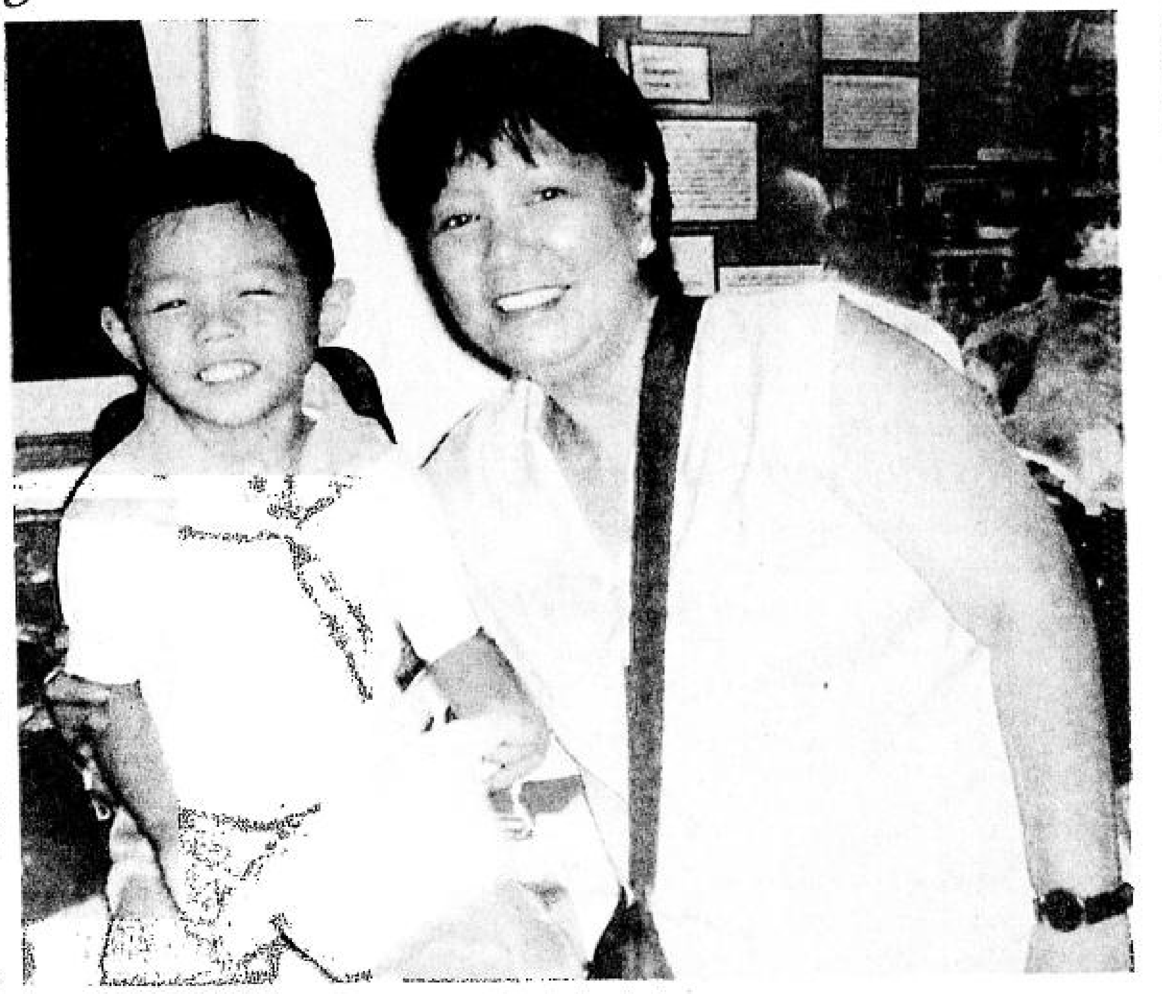
Alora needed it for her son Victor Emmanuel or Eman, less than 2 months old, who seemed to be suffering from a stomachache.

Several months later, Alora, a public relations consultant, canceled all her appointments to rush Eman to the Makati Medical Center. The baby could hardly breathe because of a severe cold.

"It was a series of firsts for me," says Alora in her Makati apartment, which is also her office. "I said to myself, 'God, it's hard to be a parent.' I suddenly felt guilty for all the heartaches I gave my mom and dad in the past."

Alora, an only child, realized, as she held Eman while waiting for the doctor, that it was now time to pay her dues. Friends with kids could only smile at her experiences, tap her shoulder for encouragement and welcome her to "motherhood."

ALORA in her new role as proud mother


MILA Alora and Eman during a Linggo ng Wika celebration in school

No regrets

"It has been both a rewarding and taxing experience," she says. "Whereas I used to go out of town or abroad as I pleased, now I have to include him in all my plans. This is a totally new experience for me, and I have no regrets."

Alora became a single parent in her 40s, adopting a boy. Eman turned six in September, a handsome and precocious boy.

Alora never intended to hide the truth from him, deciding early on she'd rather tell him herself than have him learn about it from other people.

"There's really nothing to hide," she says. "It saves me from answering irrelevant questions from other people. Even Eman's teachers know he's adopted."

Although Alora's friends and neighbors welcomed Eman, some people were quite uncharitable, even narrow-minded. It seems being adopted still carries a stigma in this country.

Questions

Alora decided it was time to tell Eman about his past when she overheard somebody teasing him about being an *ampon*.

The moment of truth was less dramatic than Alora expected. Mother and son were spending quality time together one evening when she opened up the topic.

He took the news quite positively. Instead of tears, the revelation elicited questions from Eman.

Alora couldn't answer all of them, but she promised him: "Although you didn't come from Mommy's belly, you're the only one she loves. You're well-loved by everybody, and whatever happens, Mommy loves you very much."

Alora also promised Eman to help him look for his biological mother, if he wanted to, in the future. "I guess it's innate [for everyone] to want to know about one's roots," she says. "We need it as a form of closure."

Alora suspected, since Eman was very sensitive, he already had an inkling that his family was not typical, growing up with just a mother and a series of maids-cum-nannies. Every time he asked questions, especially about his absentee father, she responded lightheartedly.

"I used to tell him Mommy had no husband because I was still shopping around," she says with a naughty grin. "The poor boy probably got fed up, he didn't ask anymore. But I know deep in his heart, he knew there was something amiss."

PLAYTIME for Alora and son Eman at the carnival

THREE generations of Aloras—Etang, Mila and baby Eman

Girl wanted

Alora had long wanted to adopt, preferably a girl, but her career and lifestyle kept her from doing it until a male friend raised the topic again more than six years ago.

A woman the friend knew was giving birth to an "unwanted" baby. He asked Alora if she wanted to adopt the child. Without giving it serious thought, she said yes but nothing was formalized. She asked about the mother's background but didn't even bother to meet her.

"I felt I had no need to be emotionally attached to her," she reasons. "The only picture I have of Eman's mother is a photocopy of her passport."

Alora thought she had three months to change her mind. But in less than two months, her friend called to congratulate her for "having" a healthy baby boy.

She greeted the news with reservation. She wanted a baby girl and she didn't consult anybody, including her then ailing mother, about her plans. She called up friends for advice and several were far from encouraging.

"One friend, journalist Nelson Navarro, wanted to know if I was out of my mind," she says with a chuckle. "Adopting a child, he said, was not like getting a doll."

Though money was not a problem, Alora was unsure if she was emotionally prepared. Despite her doubts, her curiosity and some friend's insistence that she give the child a chance prevailed. And when she laid eyes on the baby in the hospital nursery, her reservations quickly vanished.

"It was love at first sight," she says. "He was such a beautiful baby. I guess it was maternal instinct."

Clueless

But Alora knew nothing about child-rearing. Leaving the baby in the hospital for one day, she and her maid, who became Eman's first nanny, did some cramming.

"I was totally unprepared," says Alora. "We rushed to the department store to buy baby stuff and books. Fortunately, people there were so helpful. They probably thought I was giving the items as gifts."

> Career woman Mila Alora adopted a baby boy in her 40s and has felt fulfilled ever since

Since her maid's command of English was shaky at best, she had to translate the baby books into Filipino. Luckily, her maid, though single, wasn't totally clueless as she had taken care of nieces and nephews.

What finally convinced Alora she did the right thing was what happened more than a week later when she home to her hometown, Calamba, Laguna.

She surprised her elderly mom, who was then almost blind because of diabetes, with a present. She put two-week-old Eman on the old woman's lap. When her mom touched him, he began to cry. And so did Alora's mom.

"I told her the baby's mine," she says. "Of course, she knew it was too late for me to bear a child."

Eman became a constant fixture in their Calamba home. Alora's mom grew so fond of her new grandson that his one-week stay every month became two. Daughter was more than happy to oblige.

"I believe Eman extended my mom's life by two more years," says Alora. "He's such a sweet and loving child, although he can be a brat sometimes. I have little reason to doubt that he also keeps me strong and inspired."

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph

Family-friendly luxury residences

AS families on vacation continue to emerge globally as a significant category of travelers, Oakwood Premier Ayala Center is actively pursuing this market with special rates and packages particularly for local residents.

In addition to business travelers which are its core market, the luxury property has began to develop a loyal following among families seeking to spend time together.

Al Legaspi, Oakwood resident manager, points out that recent studies in the US have identified leisure travelers vacationing with family or attending family events as "the single largest category of travel."

He points out that at the 306-room property located at the heart of the Ayala Center in Makati, *balikbayan* families, families of local residents taking a break, as well as families of executives doing business in the country are regular guests.

"Our setup as a luxury residence property makes us family-friendly as well as friendly to business executives," he says. Informal guest surveys point out that both families and executives particularly appreciate the fact that Oakwood units are larger than the average hotel room.

For executives, this means some of their meetings can be held at their unit since every residence has its own dining and seating area. In addition, they have the flexibility of working in their room since each unit has broadband Internet connection.

For families, this means more room especially for active, younger children who are also likely to appreciate the entertainment center with DVD player that is part of the living area.

Moreover, Oakwood's location within the Ayala Center and just one elevator ride away from the widest range of retail and entertainment options is appealing to both executives who wish to unwind after a hard day's work and families that want to do things together, he says.

Legaspi notes that Oakwood's strategy to appeal to families is part of a global trend. Disney and Nickolodeon, for instance, have launched campaigns aimed at drawing pint-sized travelers, their parents and even grandparents to their facilities. Even cruises to the Caribbean have created special packages for families.

Executives and families also appreciate the quiet ambience of Oakwood in Makati. The luxury establishment does not host big banquets or large conventions, allowing guests privacy as well as tighter security. For parents, this means their children are exposed primarily only to friendly hotel staff and other residents.

Families on vacation also have access to Oakwood's facilities including an Olympic-style swimming pool, health club and spa, tennis courts and table tennis. Within each unit, the entertainment area, broadband Internet access and a full kitchen afford families other entertainment options.

Call 7298888.

OAKWOOD Premiere Ayala Center is attracting families, a significant travel segment, with special vacation rates.

Flowers for mom

SURPRISE Mom this Mother's Day with unique plants and garden accessories from the Flower Farm Corp.

The Flower Farm's one-of-a-kind plant holders feature little girls and boys designed and hand-painted in tin, holding twin sets of lovely hanging plants such as Creeping Charlies and Spider plants.

These plant holders are perfect accents to Mom's garden, adding a touch of whimsy and fun outdoors. Aside from having a year-round decor, these plants are easy to care for.

Mom can even exercise her green thumb by propagating these plants so that in a few months, she can actually have more of these oxygen-rich, natural beauties all over the garden.

The Flower Farm also has floral arrangements that will be a joy to give and receive this Mother's Day. Skilled florists give you an array of arrangements.

Visit the Flower Farm to choose from among varieties of flowers, from gerberas to chrysanthemums, lisianthus, lilies, roses and more.

A wide selection of collectible vases, baskets, containers and accents are also available.

The Flower Farm Corp.'s branches are in the Makati Central Business District (tel. 8156667), Alabang Town Center (tel. 8094609), Madison Square Greenhills (7227122) and Glorietta 4 (7527206).

DELIGHT Mom with unique garden accessories and plants from The Flower Farm. These handmade and colorful plant holders carry twin hanging plants, and add a touch of whimsy and fun to Mom's garden.

To C is to Believe

Little known remarkable facts about the world's most popular vitamin.

"Mag Vitamin C ka at nang hindi ka magkasakit" We heard these words uttered time and time again by our mothers when we were kids.

Little do we know how right our mothers were, very right in fact.

Common belief is that Vitamin C is merely for the common colds. Coughs and other minor respiratory disorders included.

Vitamin C has been proven to slow aging, prevent stroke, cancer, heart disease, alzheimer's disease, cataract and a number of other degenerative diseases.

It is also believed that Vitamin C increases our resistance and gives us strong bones and teeth.

However, latest research by the medical community and the world's leading Vitamin C exponents have concluded that high doses of Vitamin C daily can do much, much more for the human body.

Vitamin C has been proven to slow aging, prevent stroke, cancer, heart disease, alzheimer's disease, cataract and a number of other degenerative diseases.

Researchers in the Linus Pauling Institute at Oregon State University have made a major discovery about the way vitamin C functions in the human body - a breakthrough that may help explain its possible value in preventing cancer and heart disease.

Sadly, millions die yearly from stroke and heart disease, when vitamin C supplementation alone would save many lives.

Aside from preventing diseases, Vitamin C also helps in the body's absorption of other Vitamins, like Vitamins A, B and E.

The experts conclusion - *Vitamin C is the only vitamin repeatedly proven to increase the human lifespan when taken in doses that exceed dietary levels of this vitamin.*

With these amazing and remarkable findings, many people from the medical field and from consumer groups are starting to advocate the use of Vitamin C worldwide.

Here in the Philippines, a group of mothers was formed. The organization is called MOM-C or Movement of Mothers for Vitamin C as spearheaded by POTEN-CEE of Pascual Laboratories.

MOM-C's aim is to primarily educate the population about the remarkable benefits of this "wonder vitamin," to propagate the knowledge and to advocate the use of Vitamin C daily.

The end all and be all is that for every Filipino of any age to adopt the habit of taking Vitamin C.

Being a MOM-C also has its perks like access to relevant information from Pascual Laboratories.

If you want to learn more about MOM-C, please text "MOM-C" <space> your email address and send to 0920-9618126. You can also email us at momc@pascuallab.com or call our hotline (02) 926-9451.

And so the next time we hear our mothers say, *"Mag Vitamin C ka at nang hindi ka magkasakit"* we better believe it. After all with all the latest findings, it is indeed the "wonder vitamin." *Ang malakas na depensa laban sa sakit.*

Pick one everyday and make her day!

Happy Mother's Day!

Mother's day wish ng MOM-C, lahat sa family mag-vitamin C!

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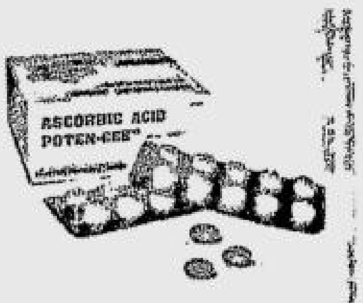

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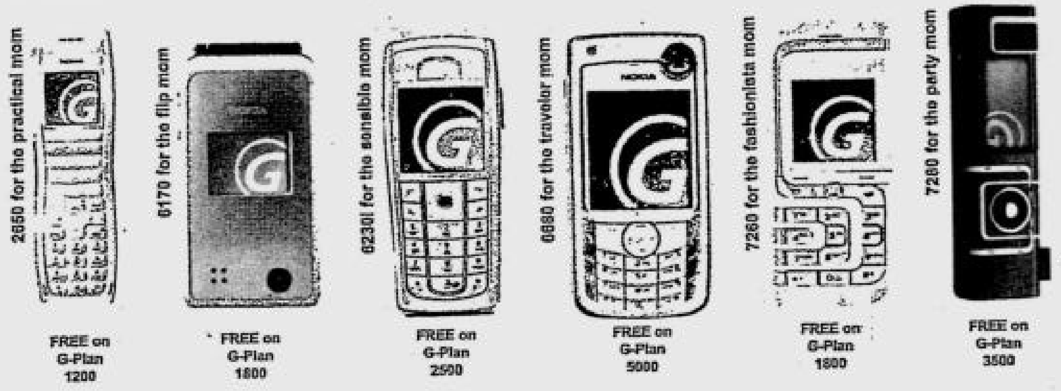

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NIGHT of romance, wine and tulips /K6

Mom and 'man' of the house

Sandy Diez believes honesty enabled Chrissy to accept her decision to break up with her daughter's dad

By Belle V. Bondoc,
daughter of Rosita Victorio- Bondoc

WHEN Sandy Diez decided to call it quits with her daughter's father, she told herself: "I can stand on my own and I can bring up my daughter on my own, *kaya ko ito*..."

She knew her decision to end her relationship with her partner of more than six years would change her life forever, but she was determined to be brave for her daughter, Chrissy.

"Chris was only four when her dad and I separated... and I had to explain everything in a way a 4-year-old could understand," says Diez.

Serious problems in the relationship led to the separation. Diez says one of them was distance. Chrissy's father is an American citizen working abroad.

After the separation, Diez had to be both mother and father to Chrissy. She was a full-time mom, "no *yaya*. I was really a hands-on mom. I didn't work because I didn't want to miss the chance of seeing my kid in her formative years, *'di mo na maibabalik kapag nawala iyon*."

Extended family

Her partner's parents provided financial support during the first few years of separation. "But I didn't demand for any financial support from her father. Whatever he can give, okay *lang*," says Diez.

She admits, being a single mom was never that easy. "... Emotionally, it's [really] hard," confesses Diez.

Her extended family is a great help in coping with single parenting and giving Chrissy a home. The child practically grew up in a "simple yet loving" environment under the ever-watchful eye of *nana* (Diez's mom), aunties, uncles, and *nunu* (Diez's dad). "My family [always] provides us moral support," says the single mother.

According to Diez, her daughter enjoys the privileges of being an only child "but she knows *na hindi ko maibibigay lahat sa kanya ang luho*. There are certain limitations."

In fact, Diez says Chrissy did not get her first mobile unit until she was in second-year high school.

"I thought at that time that she was too young to own a cell phone and it was just *luho*," says Diez. Occasionally, she does spoil Chrissy, "but I make it a point that I buy her something practical."

Today, Diez is travel editor for a newspaper. She works five days a week and sometimes has to go out-of-town on assignments. But, despite her busy schedule, she always finds time for her daughter.

Her mothering style makes her more of a friend to her daughter than an authority figure.

MOM/D2

"WE don't actually have a generation gap...*Nasasakyan ko pa mga trip niya*." Sandy Diez with daughter Christianne "Chrissy" Muego

VAL HANDUMON

Motherhood in perfect form.
Rustan's

All about Eves

She has an 8-year-old for a daughter and a 34-year-old woman for a lover

By Anne A. Jambora,
daughter of Marietta Alfon Jambora

MOTHERHOOD is hard when you're raising a child by yourself, and harsher even, often cruel, when you're a mom raising a daughter with another woman as a lover.

Such is the story of Gin Guevarra, a petite and pretty 30-year-old single mom to Isabel (not her real name). It was disgraceful enough, she says, to the family's honor when she got pregnant out of wedlock at 22. But her coming out as a lesbian was a big blow to an already frail family tree.

Today, after years of living in isolation with her family and quietly living through her pain, Guevarra breaks her silence.

She was, as the cliché goes, young and reckless then. Unable to come to terms with her sexuality, Guevarra went steady with a boyfriend for four years, a guy from within her circle of friends, she says. Although he proposed marriage to her when he learned she was in the family way, she refused to accept it, still reeling from the confusion of it all.

Even the parish priest advised her not to tie the knot, since the marriage might not last because of their financial instability.

A week before she gave birth, she heard her boyfriend was courting another woman. She dumped him and hasn't heard from him since.

Her friends now refer to Isabel's father a mere sperm donor. "*Ni singkong butas, ni saging na bulok wala s'yang naibigay* (Since I got pregnant he hasn't been of help to me in any way)," she says.

Struggling

Guevarra shuttles from one odd job to the other, struggling to make ends meet and to send her daughter to a decent school.

She may not have been able to finish her studies—she now lives the unforgiving repercussion of such a mistake—but her daughter will receive nothing but the best education her hard-earned money could buy.

When her out-of-work dad, for instance, wanted to borrow her salary, Guevarra refused. She was going to use the money to pay for Isabel's outstanding tuition and fees for the previous year. But her dad was persistent, and even suggested, much to the stunned Guevarra, that the kid quit preschool.

Two years ago, she met her lover, who runs a rice farm, fish pond and poultry in Bulacan. Three years before, she had accepted her sexuality and entered into a troubled relationship with a younger girl, whom she called "immature." She found her new lover considerate and mature.

But her lover, 34, has been receiving threats from her father. (Her ex was once stalked by Guevarra's father, and received threats as well.)

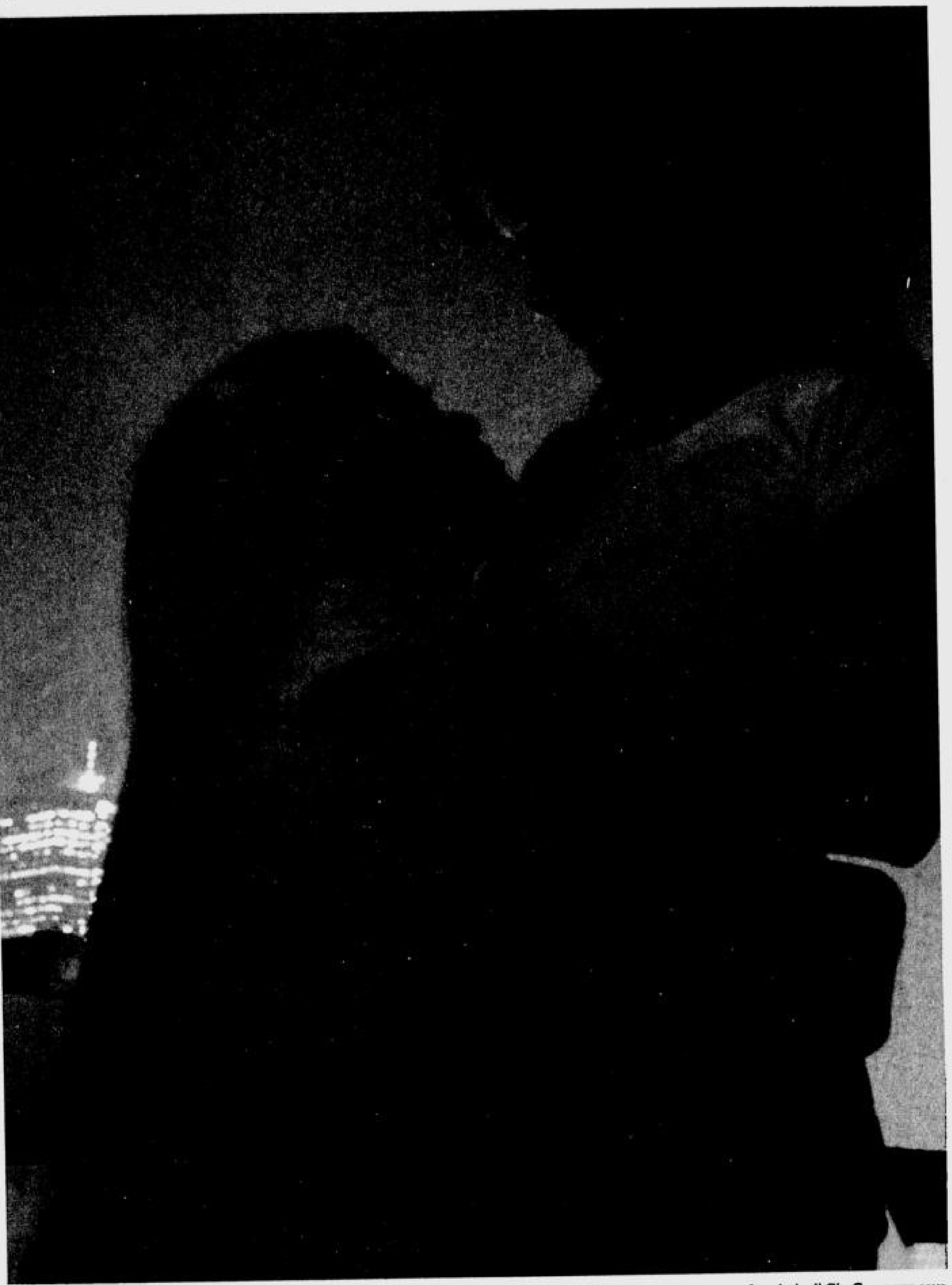
Her father's wicked temper is an exquisite, familiar territory. Guevarra recalls a squabble between her dad and mom that turned ugly. A younger brother, who could no longer stand watching his mother beaten to a pulp, opened the padlocked front door so that she could run out of the house. She ran toward the vacant lots nearby, slashing her bare feet in the process. Guevarra says she herself had been beaten up by her father.

Unable to support her daughter on her own, Guevarra is staying in her parents' two-story, four-bedroom family home with her child, brother, nephews and nieces. She says she's saving up so she and Isabel could someday live on their own—her life partner included.

Mature young girl

But how does little Isabel take in all of these—the violence, the abuse, the constant badmouthing of her mother by her own family, the lesbian relationship?

Guevarra, who surprisingly holds no grudge against her family, has always taught her daughter, now 8, to be respectful of her elders and family, not to make uncalled-for comments, to hold her head up, to make sound judgment on her own, to be strong and independent.



"MOTHERHOOD is the best thing that ever happened to me. I became a stronger and better person because of my baby," Gin Guevarra says.

JOSEPH AGCAOILI

Her patience and perseverance could probably pay off in the end. Isabel is mature beyond her years, as do most children who grow up in unusual conditions. Already she is discerning, separating malicious whispers from facts, and fully trusting in everything her mother says. She hears no spiteful comments from Guevarra about their family at all.

Above all, her child is completely accepting of her mother's gay orientation, and dreams of one day living in their own home—her mother's lover figuring into the family picture very prominently.

In fact, Isabel candidly tells a story of her schoolteacher, who once asked her if it were okay with her that her mother's "friend" is, well, a butch. "Okay *lang po*" was her snappy reply.

Isabel, like many children raised by a single parent, had once upon a time searched for her father. And she did meet him last year, during a basketball tournament in their village. (Yes, they live in the same community.)

The usually spirited and chatty child all at once became painfully shy, turning her back on her father as he tried to woo her into a conversation. Instead, Isabel chose to write down poems she learned at school at the back of crumpled receipts from her pocket, and handed them over for her father to read.

It must have been memorable to Isabel, who vividly recalls how her father talked to her, stroked her hair and held her hand. Not one to deprive her daughter of paternal affection, Guevarra asked Isabel if she wanted to see her father again, perhaps on a regular basis.

The girl said no. The meeting was enough, she added.

Despite the admonition of her grandmother and the rest of the family against lesbianism, Isabel has said she wants a place of her own with two "mamas" rather than live in a violent home.

But Guevarra's lover wants her to decide. They will live together if and only when Guevarra feels they are ready—financially, most of all.

"All my life I have been dependent on my family," Guevarra says. "My dad says I will never make it on my own. I want to prove them wrong."

E-mail the author at ajambora@inquirer.com.ph

Mom and 'man' of the house

From page D1

She says this has allowed Chrissy to develop her own strengths and survive the stigma attached to being from a broken home.

Disapproving people

"There are people who don't really approve of our situation. My mom tells me to never be ashamed of our situation. She made me understand that what happened to her and my dad was no one's fault," says Chrissy.

Diez, too, comes from a broken family although she was much older than Chrissy when her parents separated after 23 years of marriage. Though Diez has accepted her situation, her mom still couldn't accept the breakup of her marriage.

Diez believes honesty enabled Chrissy to easily accept her parents' separation. "I've always been honest about my relationship with her father. I didn't hide anything from her, *hindi ko siya pinaasa na magkakabalikan kami ng* dad *niya*," she says.

As a mom, Diez is quite proud of how her daughter has turned out, consistently in the honor's list in school. "She's not like me, when I was her age, *nauuna laro* before studies and studying was the last thing on my mind," she says.

Chrissy, a business administration sophomore at the University of the Philippines in Diliman, hopes to become a lawyer.

Father, daughter meet

Chrissy grew up without seeing her dad, who now lives in the United States with his new family. But last November, after 15 years, Chrissy met her dad when he was here for a brief vacation.

"In fact Chrissy's dad (gave) her the option to study in the US but she refused," says Diez.

What she appreciates most about her daughter is "she's very certain about what she wants and she's very independent."

For mother and daughter, every night is like one big sleepover. They stay up for hours and talk about everything and anything. "My daughter would often wait for me because she couldn't sleep *kapag wala pa ako sa bahay*. Before going to bed, she would make *kuwento* about what happened to her during the day," says Diez.

They enjoy doing together simple things like watching their favorite shows on cable television, and traveling. Diez says they used to go mountain-climbing when Chrissy was only about nine years old.

Both animal lovers, they have four dogs and four cats at home. They also share a passion for reading. Diez says, "Chrissy is not a typical teenager... She would rather buy a book than spend the money on less important stuff."

Role model

Chrissy considers her mom as her role model though she says her mom is more outgoing and gregarious, while she is an introvert. "She likes to strike up conversations with strangers. She's quick with her *kuwento* that's why people are drawn to her. *Ako hindi ko kayang gawin*—to start a conversation with someone you just met. But I think it's a positive attitude *na gusto kong mamana*," says Chrissy.

Mom's greatest dream for her "Mutya" (Chrissy's pet name): "I don't want her to be (a single mother) like her mom. As much as possible, I want her to find the right man who'll take care of her. She'll be a good mom."

She adds, "I just want to live long enough to see her succeed in her chosen career, building a life of her own and being loved by her husband."

Despite a failed relationship, Diez admits she still believes in love though she is more selective now. "I just don't want to be alone especially when Chris (leaves)," she says.

But Chrissy is always a major consideration when she thinks of going into a relationship. "I just felt I made a mistake, and couldn't afford to make another mistake. I let my parents down by being a single parent. I would excel as a mother. I couldn't afford to make a mistake with my daughter because she's my only child," says Diez.

She recalls that when Chrissy was younger, she would show her disapproval of her mother's suitors. "Chrissy would just sit on the sofa... and glare. She wouldn't even say a single word. Now things have changed. She understands the situation better and she's taking things in a very mature way," says Diez.

E-mail the author at bbondoc@inquirer.com.ph

A woman's rite of passage

PR maven Amor Maclang kept excusing herself from motherhood, claiming she had 'lazy ovaries.' But her baby would hear none of it

By Rowena C. Burgos,
daughter of Zenaida Cruz-Burgos

FOR AMOR Maclang, pregnancy and raising her baby, Parris Eve Soledad, are rites of passage, providing her and husband Brad Geiser new energy to take on life.

Their baby has also inspired them to adopt healthier habits. Now, they eat well and exercise. Being physically fit, they believe, is essential to caring for their child, nicknamed Peggy. Their 18-month-old child has learned to love fruits and vegetables, especially *ampalaya*.

Raising Peggy has been Amor's most profound experience. "We find creative ways to spend time with her like brushing teeth together and bringing her to restaurants, photo shoots, beauty salon and Tagaytay. And nothing compares to that feeling of cradling her in my arms while she's asleep."

Five years before they had Peggy, Amor and Brad's lives revolved around their PR company. Having kids was farfetched. "We enjoyed our lifestyle. At the same time, I had this thought that I might mess up a child's life. It's no joke raising a kid," Amor says.

There were also the health considerations. Amor was once diagnosed as having "lazy ovaries." "It means I had a better chance of being hit by lightning than getting pregnant." At that time, her doctor, Norma Gaffud, found out that she had hypothyroidism and metabolic disorders so she was treated for six months. During that period, Amor lost 60 pounds.

Amor also has irregular menstruation. She's used to missing her period for two years. So becoming pregnant was "ludicrous." Even when she experienced vomiting, nausea, heightened sensitivity to smell and mood swings, she never had an inkling that those were the symptoms of morning sickness.

Amor just doubled her intake of vitamins due to the SARS scare at that time. A friend even teased her that she might be pregnant. "That was the funniest thing I've ever heard," she recalls.

'Parasite'

What goaded her to undergo a check-up was when she felt something moving in her stomach. "I thought there was a parasite in my belly. Every time I would drink water, my stomach would stiffen. I even had pregnancy tests, which all turned out to be inconclusive because my condition was super advance. It was a blood exam which confirmed my pregnancy. After that, ultrasound tests were done," Amor relates.

She was already 7½ months pregnant when Amor discovered her condition. She experienced high blood pressure so she thought that she would have an eclampsia.

So a friend recommended a doctor who handles delicate pregnancies, Dr. Ana Marie Burgos. "When I went to her, she couldn't determine the age of my baby. But she really took care of me. I was given seven pills a day for iron, folic acid and calcium to make sure that my baby and I would turn out all right."

At that time, Amor would describe her baby as "anti-contraction." She thought the longer she stayed in her belly, the better for the baby to be fully formed.

In spite of her condition, Amor continued with the same work load. "I couldn't put my life on hold. I was used to having our company as our baby."

Date with the stork

On the day before she gave birth, Amor went to Dr. Burgos for her weekly check-up. Her blood pressure wouldn't go down. It bounced from 180 to 190 to 200 over 140. So she was confined for monitoring. When Brad found out what happened, he wanted to stay with his wife, "but I told him to just take care of the business," Amor remembers.

Throughout her stay in the delivery room, the medical staff who attended to her remained calm despite the gravity of her condition. She could have died with such high blood pressure.

When the baby came out, Brad became worried for she was purple and cried with a whimper before opening her eyes. Mother and child stayed in the hospital for seven days. Peggy was jaundiced so she had to stay for a few more days. Amor's pediatrician Dr. Sylvia Capistrano did tests on Peggy just to make sure that she didn't have complications.

"Waiting for her test results was the most nerve-wracking time of my life," Amor says. "I even made a bargain with God to help my daughter survive. In return, I told Him that whatever gifts and blessings God gave me and Brad, we'd use them to help underprivileged children and women. We were so happy when the tests turned out to be negative."

RAISING Peggy has been Amor Maclang's most profound experience. PHOTOS BY JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

Newfound selflessness

Caring for Peggy has given Amor a newfound selflessness, which has inspired her to take needed action on behalf of her baby—something she wouldn't normally do for herself.

She never failed to breastfeed Peggy for three months. It was when she could extract only four ounces a milk a day that she was forced to give Peggy mixed feeding. "She would not live on such small amount of milk," Amor says.

Their business takes a backseat when it comes to spending time with Peggy. "This may sound cliché but it's fun being with Peggy," Amor says. "When I'm stressed, I just turn off my cell phone and play with her."

Until now, Amor adds, Peggy has never given them problems in terms of crying. The only time she would cry was when there were too many people around her.

Indeed, the process of being pregnant and giving birth has given Amor the strength to meet greater challenges than she ever thought possible. It has also strengthened friendships since she learned from "mommy friends," like culinary expert Vicky Barrera, who have given her advice on maternity and parenting.

Amor feels light. "All the difficulties of pregnancy and giving birth are nothing compared to having an adorable child like our Peggy," she says.

E-mail the author at rburgos@inquirer.com.ph

RELAXATION for Amor means playtime with Peggy.

Defying the odds

Having a baby at 44 is considered high-risk, but lawyer Gina Garcia Aguirre has no regrets

By Vangie Baga-Reyes,
daughter of Sol Sy-Baga

MORE often than not, pregnancy comes at a time when it is least expected, and this is precisely what happened to lawyer Gina Garcia Aguirre.

At 44, Aguirre became a mother again despite being what most obstetrician-gynecologists would call as a "high-risk pregnancy."

"The OB-Gyn's announcement indeed came as a complete surprise," says Aguirre. "I was already comfortably raising my three-year-old son Rufino Luis and slowly recovering from sleepless nights. I already gave away all of my son's newborn stuff. I felt I was already too old to have another baby."

Aguirre was already four months on the family way when she learned the good news. Her job required her to travel a lot and at that time, because she was too busy attending to different court cases, she didn't notice she had missed her period.

Tough, hard-hitting

This lady lawyer used to work for former Sen. Rene Saguisag legal office. She eventually put up her own law office and handled controversial cases like the Bancapital Development Corp. scam.

As a lawyer, she can be tough and hard-hitting when need be. But she says she is a fun mom, and a loving wife to Rowen, 43, who runs the family's resort business in Boracay called The Boracay Beach Resort.

When it's time to go home, she shifts to maternal mode. She plays with her son and tries her best not to bring her work home.

When her second pregnancy was finally confirmed, Aguirre and her husband got all excited, especially when the ultrasound showed they would have a baby girl. The couple found themselves going back to the baby store for clothes, accessories and other baby essentials. Again, they started reading various baby books.

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

Aguirre's becoming pregnant late in life might have put her at risk. But she knew that age was not a factor in giving birth to a healthy baby girl. From the start, she knew that the best thing one could do for the baby was to be in good health always.

"I don't smoke and stay away from alcoholic drinks," says Aguirre, who got married in 1993. She eats a balanced, nutritious diet. She has no history of hypertension, is not diabetic and has no heart problem.

Still, at the back of her mind, Aguirre was watchful. Even among young pregnant women, after all, no one could say that everything would turn out fine until the would-be mother has reached her full term.

But Aguirre defied the odds.

Only 11 days ago, she gave birth via caesarian section to a bouncing baby girl, Gabrielle Simone, who weighed 6.9 pounds. Both mother and child are in good health.

Slowing down

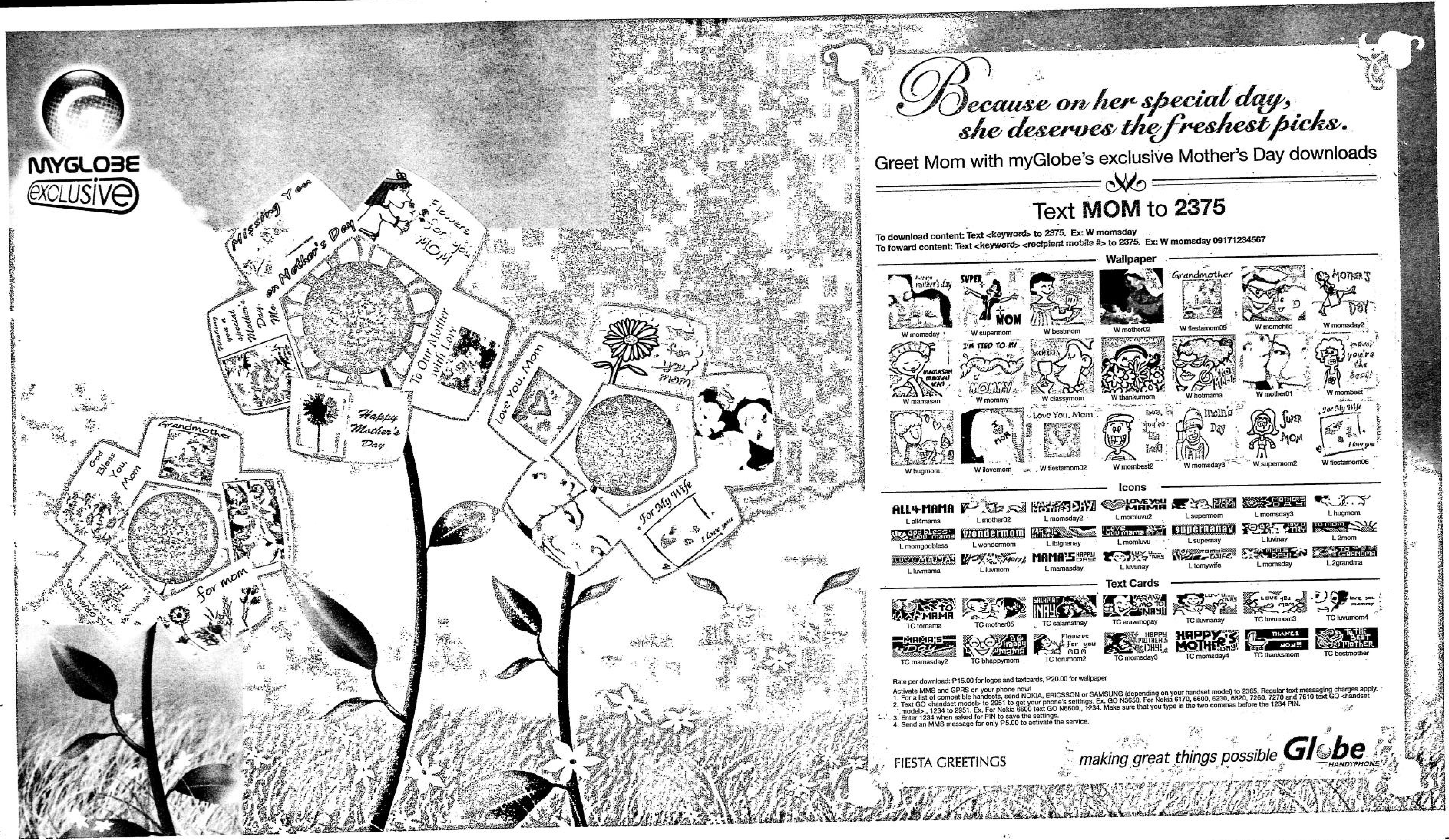
Now, with two lovely kids, Aguirre feels she has to slow down a bit from her demanding work and give more time to her children. She has closed down her Pasong Tamo office and moved her office work to her house in BF Resort Village in Las Piñas, where she can check on the kids anytime she wants to.

"I want to feel how it is to take care of them myself," she says. "I really want to be involved in child-rearing as much as possible. Children, no matter how much they love their parents, will eventually grow up and lead their own lives. I don't want to lose the chance to grow with the kids."

Aguirre has no regrets about having a baby or a family at a late age, despite the risks.

"To raise a family is one of life's noblest things. It is also one of the most difficult things to do. It is not merely bearing children, it means caring for these children with consistency and sensitivity. Both parents are needed to share their roles," she says.

AGUIRRE gave birth via caesarian section to a bouncing baby girl, Gabrielle Simone, only 11 days ago.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Too young to be a mom?

CIELO Fronteras and son Nico

Cielo Fronteras shows that not all teenage pregnancies can destroy a young girl's life

By Pam Pastor,
daughter of Susan Salomon-Pastor

LIKE any other college freshman, Christine Marie Cielo Puruganan Fronteras had so much to look forward to. She attended her classes religiously and devoted a lot of time to her passion for dancing and cheerleading.

But a visit to the doctor confirmed what she already suspected. She was pregnant. And she was only 17.

It took a while before reality sank in. "I denied the fact that I was pregnant."

Hesitating to tell her parents, only Fronteras and her boyfriend, who reassured her with his constant presence, knew.

She carried on with her life as normally as possible, attending her classes and pursuing her other interests. "I couldn't stop my extracurricular activities, my parents would wonder why."

As her stomach expanded, she started wearing big shirts, fear of rejection strengthening her resolve to keep her secret. "I was more scared of what people would say."

Astonishingly, she was able to hide her condition for nine months, until one night when she delivered her baby by herself in her room. "I didn't know I was going to give birth *na*. It was very fast. It was too late to call anyone. *Hindi niya ako pinahirapan. Parang nakikisama siya talaga.*"

Fronteras was grateful the baby was healthy. She believed divine intervention played an important role in Nico's birth, as the family has a history of difficult childbirths. "When I was pregnant, that was the only thing I prayed for."

Big surprise

In the morning, she called her mom, Celeste Aida. "When she saw the baby, she said, 'O, where did you get the baby?' I said, 'From me'."

Her dad took the news hard. "He was so disappointed. He didn't talk to me for a while."

But Fronteras' dad couldn't resist the baby's charm for long. And the baby actually brought them even closer. "My dad was the one who gave Nico his name."

Fronteras' dad, Jun, explained, "Nicolo means fighter, which fits him because he fought for his life. His second name, Gregorio, is his maternal grandfather's name."

Her parents convinced Fronteras to take a leave from school for one semester to care for the newborn. Fronteras took to being a mom easily. "Your motherly instincts kick in *agad*," she said with a smile.

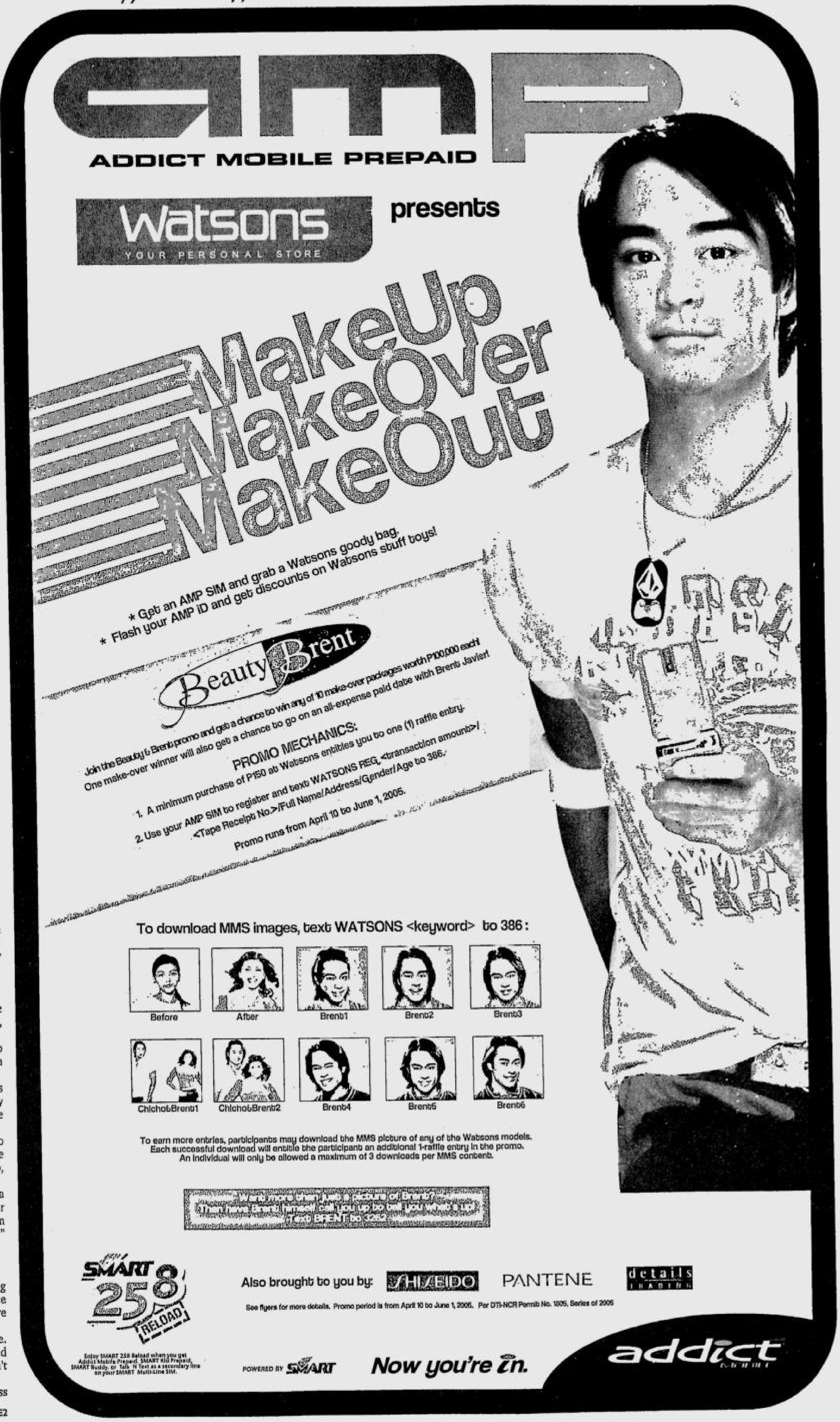
Back to school

Fronteras' return to school the following semester proved to be a challenge. Despite many loyal friends, some schoolmates were cruel.

"There were so many rumors about me. *Namomroblema ka na, dadagdag pa.* I wanted to say to them, 'Instead of talking, why don't you ask if you can help me?'"

Fronteras let other people's nastiness

TOO YOUNG/ E2



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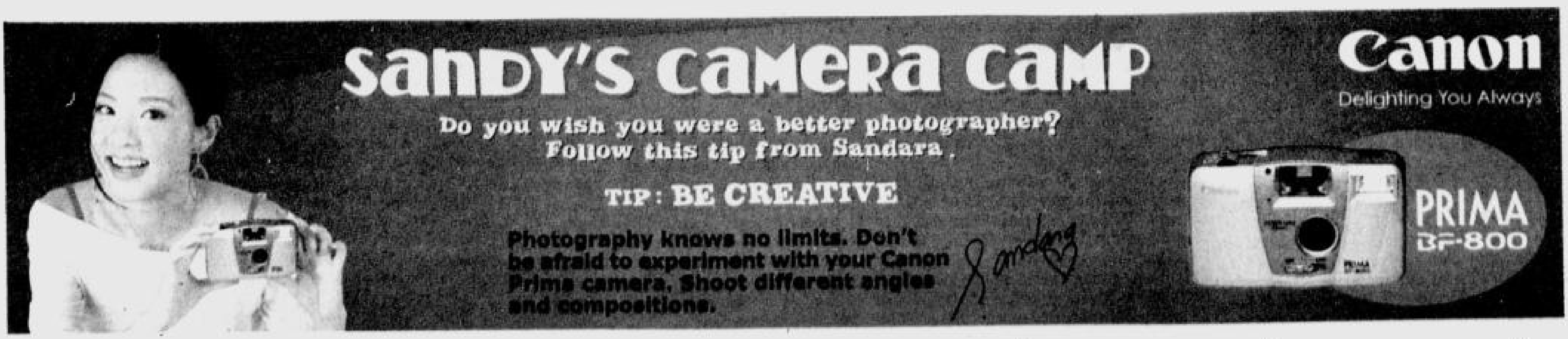

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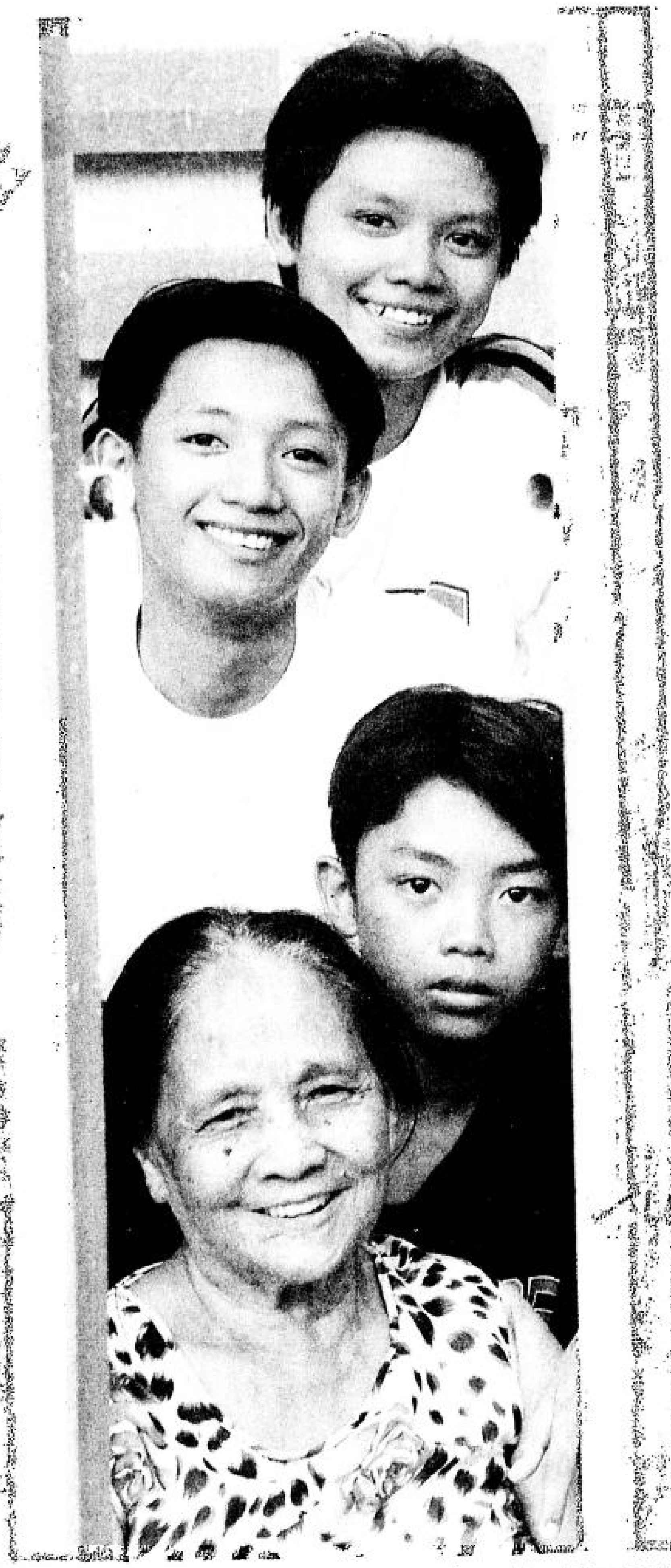
Twice a mother



GENEROUS SPIRIT. If Placila Arellano would have her way, she would want all her 20-plus grandchildren to live with her. She is shown here with her wards (from top) Arnelain, Arnel and Arman.

PHOTOS BY JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

By Cheche V. Moral,
daughter of Teresita Vialu-Moral

HER hair is tied in a loose bun, with a smattering of gray strands framing a face filled with lines that deepen further when she smiles.

And this woman smiles a lot, proudly bearing testament to the many decades of raising and seeing through the welfare of 10 children, her own.

When you're nearing 80 and had, through much hardship, reared and nurtured your brood of 10, you may feel it's time to kick your heels and enjoy the rest of your twilight years. Your children all turned out well; they each have families of their own, and all live in relative comfort. Your job is done.

Eleven years ago, however, Placila Arellano took on a task that would keep her from taking her much-deserved retirement. She became, at 67, "mother," once again, to three young children.

The children, brood of Placila's sixth child, Nenita, were aged 7, 5 and 2 years old, when she and her late husband took them under their wings.

Meager salary

Nenita was married to a man who had vices and couldn't keep a job. She was raising her children on her own from her meager salary as a beauty consultant for a department store. While she worked, her young children would be left in the care of her mother, Placila, who was a seamstress. Placila and her husband also owned a *sari-sari* store in Mandaluyong, so they often ended up providing for the kids' basic needs themselves.

Seeing no effort on her husband's part to change his ways even for their children's sake, Nenita left the country to take on a job in Japan. She had her kids' future in mind, and she was confident they would be in good hands—her mother's.

For two long years, Nenita toiled, sending her hard-earned money to her husband so he could pay for the house she had asked him to build for their children, only to learn that he had squandered all of it. She had endured being away from her children only to end up with nothing.

The young mother decided to turn her life around. Nenita married a Japanese and started a new family. Even then, she continued to send financial support for her children, and kept regular communication with them. Through the years, she would come to visit, and would eventually build a house for her widowed mother and her children in Antipolo.

Birthday hugs

Eleven years hence, Nenita's three children would grow up to be loving teenagers without any bitterness toward their parents, and all credit goes to their grandmother, now 78, who singlehandedly nursed and showered them with love.

COOL GRANDMA. She believes in giving kids space to be free, such that the huge generation gap between her and her wards has never been a problem.

Placila Arellano cheerfully spends her sunset years taking care of three grandchildren

"We grew up knowing she's our *nanay* (mother)," Arnelain Antonio says of her grandmother in Filipino. The 18-year-old is Nenita's eldest child and only daughter with her first husband. Arnelain, who is a nursing student, adds Placila gave them a kind of love that she and her siblings never felt like they missed out on a mother. "I understand that my mother had to do what she had to do, and Nanay really cared for us. Besides, we get to talk to Mama regularly."

While Nenita showered her children with material things, it was Placila who was there to give them a hug on their birthdays, who cheered them on come graduation day, who put "merry" in their Christmases, who nursed them back to health when they got sick.

Good-natured

Regardless of what happened to their parents' marriage, the good-natured Placila wasn't one to badmouth his former son-in-law in his children's eyes. She allowed them to keep their communication with him.

"For a time we stayed with our father," Arnelain says, "but we always went back to Nanay."

Sixteen-year-old Arnel, the second child, whom Arnelain calls the "disciplinarian" among them, has a mouthful to say about fatherly love.

"How would we know what we missed out on when we never had it in the first place?" he asks.

Of course, says the computer-engineering freshman, he misses having parents, "but we have Nanay anyway."

Arman, now 13, was reared by Placila from infancy, and the high-school freshman is said to be the most affectionate toward their Nanay. "When Nanay gets mad," notes Arnelain, "Arman would hug her right away. He'd say, 'That's enough, Nanay.'"

Not easy

Of course, rearing three youngsters in her advanced years hasn't all been easy for Placila. More so because, when her own children were growing up, she could just leave them to their own devices, trusting that her older children would look after the younger ones.

"We were very poor when we were children," says Placila's youngest child, Fe Punzalan. "She had to help my father bring food to the table with income from her sewing. My older siblings were tasked to look after us. My niece and nephews are very lucky because Nanay got to really look after them."

The toughest part, Placila says, are when the children get sick. "I can't sleep!" she says. Once she had to leave them with the housemaid in Mandaluyong to look after a sick daughter-in-law in Antipolo. For three months she was away from her wards—and for three months she cried herself to sleep each night worrying about them.

"I tell my other grandchildren not to get jealous because they're lucky they have a complete set of parents to love and care for them," she says in Filipino.

Placila says she can't bear being away from her wards for an extended period that she has turned down Nenita's invitations for her to spend holidays in Japan so many times.

"Who will look after them if I leave?" she asks. When her other children invite her to visit, she insists on always bringing the three along.

Likewise, Arnelain says leaving their Nanay for any reason is out of the question. "If Mama wants us to live with her, we'll take Nanay with us."

Hearing this, her grandmother smiles, visibly touched. "As long as they finish school and their life is in order, then I'm happy."

E-mail the author at cmoral @inquirer.com.ph

Too young to be a mom?

From page E1

strengthen her desire for success. "*Taas noo ka na lang. Wala ka namang ginawang masama,*" she said. "When Nico came, he became my inspiration to prove to them that whatever they thought about me was wrong."

That was four years ago. Today, Fronteras is 21 years old and Nico is four. Apart from devoting time to Nico, Fronteras shares her love for dance by choreographing award-winning cheer dance routines. She's also moved from ballet to breakdancing.

And then there's Oleic (Cielo spelled backward), her very successful jewelry business. "It was during the time I was taking care of Nico that I started picking up beads," she said.

Fronteras' handmade creations have been featured in newspapers and fashion magazines. Her masterpieces are now available in different boutiques, including ISHQ, Vintage at Style Centrale in Eastwood and Magnet branches. Her loyal clients eagerly await her new designs.

She also excelled in school, graduating cum laude in October from San Beda College in Alabang. She was also an area excellence awardee—getting nearly perfect scores in her major subjects in Mass Communications. Though job offers came, she decided to expand her business first.

For the many good things in her life, the young woman credited her son.

"That's when I started to achieve, when I had him. *Dati hindi ko alam na kaya ko sabay-sabay.*"

Supportive

Her family played an important role in her accomplishments.

"What I love about my family is they're so supportive. *Dun mo makikita*, they are so loving, *sobra sila mag*-care. I didn't see that before. My success, I owe it all to them, to my family. When I join a bazaar, everyone goes, it's like a party. My dad drives for me, my brother Karl is my *kargador* and my mom is the *tindera*. We're a team."

Even her grandmas and aunts offered support. "My *titas* are my agents and PR managers. They sell and broadcast my designs to their friends."

Fronteras said she regretted not telling her parents about the pregnancy. "I was foolishly scared... *Mali pala yung akala ko* that they would reject me. *Kasi kahit ano ka*, your parents would love you *pa rin*."

Being a young mom entailed sacrifices. She's not as free to go out as her friends but Fronteras didn't see that as a problem. "*Hindi na ako naglalalabas*. I'm happier now... The best thing about being a mom is when you're with your child. Just being with your child is *sobrang* fulfillment *na*."

Bright future

Today, she is taking up dressmaking and fashion design in Slim's Makati. She hopes to go into clothes design soon, get her master's degree in entrepreneurship and teach in college to share her experiences in business.

Fronteras also has visions of a future with Nico's dad. "Right now we feel that we're young *pa*. There are so many opportunities. We support each other in achieving our dreams. We're just waiting for the right time... We don't want to rush."

PLAYTIME. Cielo and Nico having fun at Westin Philippine Plaza's Kid's Club

PHOTOS BY RAFFY LERMA
LOCATION: WESTIN PHILIPPINE PLAZA'S KID'S CLUB
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In the meantime, Fronteras is enjoying being Nico's mom. When asked to make a tribute to someone special in school, she made her project about Nico.

Motherhood has taught her a lot. "*Hanga ako sa mom ko*. I realized how much care my parents put into bringing me up. You're happy... It's the happiest feeling."

With Nico starting school this June and Fronteras venturing into the world of fashion, there's no doubt there's a bright future for mother and son.

E-mail the author at ppastor @inquirer.com.ph.

Mother of pearl

From page E4

Father thought of another business venture. Fishpond owners always needed fishnets harvesting milkfish, *tilapia* and shrimps. He made, rented out and repaired fishnets. His business caught up even when the fishpond owners started culturing prawns and crabs. Our neighbors respected this reticent Visayan so much, they voted him as barangay captain even if he didn't campaign for it.

Mother, for her part, put up a *carinderia* with the pork coming from pigs she herself raised at our backyard. She prepared the dishes and personally supervised her food stall.

Her business soon flourished. The family happily gathered around her various pork dishes every New Year's Eve.

But dealing in food made her dislike taking food on a regular basis. Unbeknownst to her, she was making herself a candidate for stomach ulcers. She realized it only when, one day, she started vomiting blood and choked on a big piece of clotted blood left on her throat. Father applied his first-aid skills he learned in the Army to get the blood clot and brought her immediately to the Veterans Memorial Hospital, where she was operated on.

Model family

Overcoming such a fearsome illness, Mama became active in Church activities. She helped organize women in Sunday school and bible study programs.

At the same time, she immersed herself in projects organized by the town's Health Center for mothers and children. She was also busy in village affairs as wife to the barangay captain, a position Father held for over two decades.

She saw to it that while she was doing her share in church and in civil society, she was molding her children, and now grandchildren and great grandchildren to become productive members of the community, mainly by being good students and church activists.

She herself read a lot: books, newspapers, and magazines. She could discuss with any youth current political, entertainment and international events.

Very much influenced by her, Mama's brood, my siblings, now includes within our rank, teachers, nurses, accountant, an engineer, an executive and a municipal officer. One of her grandchildren became the youngest vice mayor of a municipality in the whole country and is now in the provincial board.

Mama was so proud when our family was named in 1999 the first ever "Model Family" of our town.

Mama remained sharp, witty and intelligent to her last breath.

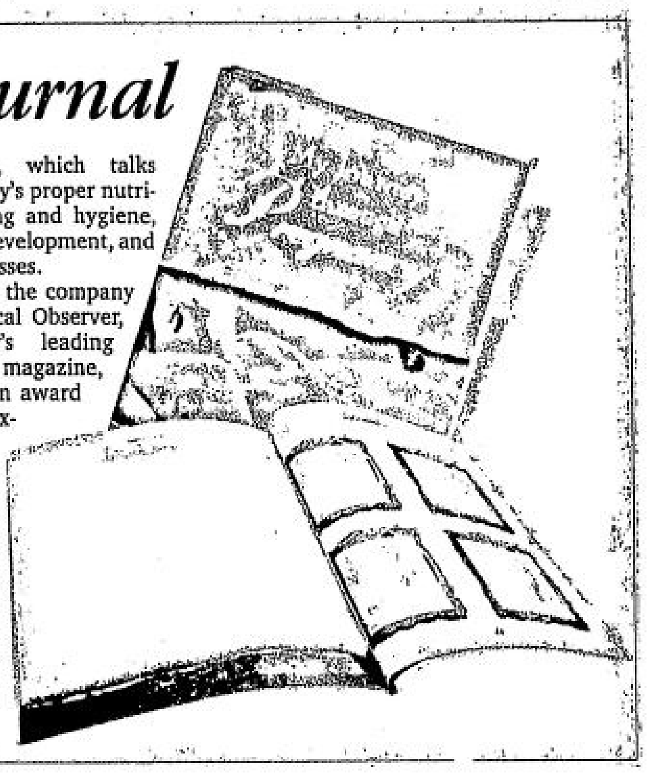
As I entered the room in our Antipolo house where she stayed until that fateful day, I noticed on her bedside table her open Bible, the book "Teatime Stories for Women," which she had just finished reading, a Filipino novel with a bookmark at the middle, and some magazines.

Mama did not need to dream about a pearl in one of the oysters she peddled in town. I should have told her, she herself was a mother of pearl, if not the pearl itself.

Alma Cruz Miclat is vice president for sales and marketing of Data Center Design Corp. and executive director of the Maningning Miclat Art Foundation, a nonstock, nonprofit organization formed in honor of her daughter, Maningning, the late multi-awarded artist and poet, writer, art teacher and translator. Log on to www.maningning.com for details of its forthcoming literary contest and musical concert.

E-mail the author at acmiclat2004@yahoo.com

Pregnancy journal



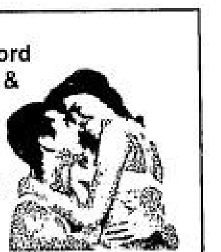
MOSMAN Communications' gift to moms this Mother's Day is "My Journey through Pregnancy" at half the price.

Mothers interested to keep a record of their pregnancy can avail themselves of this beautifully designed maternal journal at only P150 from its original price of P300 from all National Book Store outlets. Promo is until today only.

"My Journey through Pregnancy" has sections for doctor's reminders, pictures and journal pages.

Also available from Mosman is "Baby Minder," a four-booklet baby care reference for mothers, which talks about the baby's proper nutrition, grooming and hygiene, growth and development, and common illnesses.

Mosman is the company behind Medical Observer, the country's leading medical magazine, which won an award for editorial excellence from the Society of Publishers in Asia in 2002. It also publishes The Filipino Midwife, a magazine for midwives.



Time to set the record straight on pill use & weight gain

Women using Desogestrel-containing low dosed 20 mcg EE pills:

NO WEIGHT GAIN!

Today's low dose pills do not cause weight gain. But the association between weight gain and the Pill is one of women's most deeply held views, and that coupled with the importance of body image means that it is very hard to change. However, it means many women are limiting their contraceptive options and missing out on the benefits of the Pill.

The Pill has very much changed since it was first introduced 40 years ago. Early high-dose pills contained more than 80 mcg of estrogen (in the form of Ethinylestradiol) and almost certainly caused weight gain in some women. However, the pills in common use today almost universally contain much less amount of estrogen. These low dose pills, in particular, those with only 20mcg of estrogen are not associated with weight gain.

Studies with a low dose combined pill containing just 20 mcg of Ethinylestradiol (EE) + 150mcg of desogestrel (DSG) showed that the weight of the majority of women who used this pill for 6-13 cycles had stable body weight (Serfaty, et al. 1998 and Lavin, et al. 2004)

It is really time to set the record straight in relation to the Pill and weight gain. The evidence shows that fear of weight gain is unfounded and should not deter women from using the Pill. Women need to be given the facts to remove this common and persistent misconception. Occasionally, hormonal contraceptives could cause modest but transient increases in weight as women's bodies become accustomed to the hormonal changes. For this reason, women should continue with a method for at least three months to give your body time to adapt to the Pill or any hormonal contraceptive before stopping. It is indeed time for women to be aware that weight gain is usually associated with behavioral and physical changes attributable to aging!

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RAFFLE DRAWS

9. Entries must be in on or before 12 midnight of the last day of the period covered. Late entries will be included in the next draw.

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May 20 - May 26	May 27
May 27 - June 2	June 3
June 3 - June 9	June 10
June 10 - June 16	June 17
June 17 - June 23	June 24
June 24 - June 30	July 1
July 1 - July 7	July 8
July 8 - July 14	July 15
July 15 - July 21	July 22
July 22 - July 28	July 29
July 29 - August 4	August 5

10. All winners will be drawn electronically via randomizer for the weekly draws. There will be separate draws for FIRE and ICE entries.
11. Each draw will be held in the presence of a BFAD representative at Buy 'N Text Corporation, 2nd floor J.S. Gaisano Bldg., Shaw Blvd., Pasig City.
12. Participants should send in new entries every week to be qualified for each weekly draw. Non-winning weekly entries will no longer be included in the succeeding draws.
13. No participant is allowed to win the same adventure trip more than once.
14. There will be 12 weekly draws with six (6) winners per draw. Each week, three (3) winners will be sent to a FIRE adventure trip and three (3) winners will be sent to an ICE adventure trip. Each winner can bring two (2) of his/her friends.

    Example: Week 1
    (Draw Date: May 20, 2005)
    FIRE Adventure Trip:
    Taal Catamaran Sailing and Trekking (1st Winner + 2 friends) + (2nd Winner + 2 friends) + (3rd Winner + 2 friends) = 9 FIRE adventurers
    ICE Adventure Trip: Sagada Highland Exploring (1st Winner + 2 friends) + (2nd Winner + 2 friends) + (3rd Winner + 2 friends) = 9 ICE adventurers

PRIZES

15. Weekly adventure packages consist of:
    - Barkada package (winner + 2 friends)
    - Three (3) days, two (2) nights accommodation
    - Different indoor and outdoor adventure packages
    - Guided tours
    - Travel insurance
16. Weekly Fire and Ice adventure trips are as follows:

FIRE ADVENTURE TRIPS	ICE ADVENTURE TRIPS
1. Taal Catamaran Sailing and Trekking - Sailing - Kayaking - Taal trekking	1. Sagada Highland Exploring - Mountain climbing - Tongaos trekking - Spelunking
2. Sorsogon Mountain and Lake Tour - Firefly watching in bancas - Bulusan mountain lake trekking - Spelunking	2. Chico River Whitewater Rafting and Spelunking - Whitewater kayaking and rafting - Caving - Rappelling
3. Mt. Pinatubo Trekking and Ultralight Flying - Ultralight flying - 4X4 Jeep fun races - Pinatubo trekking	3. Bohol Island-Hopping - Island-hopping - Snorkeling - River trekking

17. All winners and trip participants below 18 years of age will only be allowed to join the trips provided both of their parents or a legal guardian sign/s a duly notarized waiver and authorization/parental consent form.
18. All winners and trip participants must comply with the pre-qualification requirements for the promotion:
    - Birth certificate
    - Duly notarized signed waiver form
    - Duly notarized authorization/parental consent form for all participants below 18 years of age
    - Duly notarized medical certificate and/or health form
    - Insurance requirements (full name, full address, birthdate, two (2) beneficiaries and relation to them)
19. Prizes are transferable but not convertible to cash. Should the prize be transferred, the proxy winner must comply with the pre-qualification requirements on item 18.

CLAIMING

20. Winners will be notified by a Buy 'N Text representative via mobile phone call to coordinate verification details.
21. Verification of winners will be done two (2) to three (3) working days after each draw.
22. During verification, winners are required to present the following:
    - Pepsi can or label with the duly registered winning promo code
    - Birth certificate
    - Two (2) valid IDs (i.e., driver's license, passport, SSS or company ID)
    - SIM card, which was used in registration (In case of lost SIM card, an Affidavit of Loss and a recent valid ID with both picture and signature of the winner shall be presented.)
23. All winners who are below 18 years of age need to be with their parent/legal guardian during verification. The latter should present proof that he/she is the parent/legal guardian of the minor and two (2) valid ID's.
24. A confirmation letter shall be given to the winner during verification if he/she completes all requirements.
25. Each winner will be sent to the scheduled FIRE or ICE trip. Failure to join the scheduled trips forfeits his/her prize.

    Note: Schedules of trips are determined by the outfitter based on feasibility of each adventure on a given period. Trip schedules are final and non-negotiable.

WINNERS (PER DRAW DATE)	DATE OF TRIP	FIRE ADVENTURE TRIP	ICE ADVENTURE TRIP
May 20	July 1 - 3	Taal	Sagada
May 27	July 8 - 10	Taal	Sagada
June 3	July 15 - 17	Taal	Sagada
June 10	July 22 - 24	Taal	Sagada
June 17	July 29 - 31	Sorsogon	Chico River
June 24	Aug. 5 - 7	Sorsogon	Chico River
July 1	Aug. 12 - 14	Sorsogon	Chico River
July 8	Aug. 19 - 21	Sorsogon	Chico River
July 15	Aug. 26 - 28	Mt. Pinatubo	Bohol
July 22	Sept. 2 - 4	Mt. Pinatubo	Bohol
July 29	Sept. 9 - 11	Mt. Pinatubo	Bohol
August 5	Sept. 16 - 18	Mt. Pinatubo	Bohol

26. To ensure the safety of all the participants, the outfitter shall assess the winners and the trip participants' capacity to join any adventure activity. The outfitter reserves the right to decide whether a participant is fit to join a specific activity or not.
27. Scheduled trips/activities may be postponed, cancelled or modified due to circumstances beyond reasonable control such as acts of God, weather conditions, security risks and calamities.
28. The outfitter, with the consent of a Pepsi representative, shall reschedule the postponed/cancelled trips. New trip schedules are final and non-negotiable.

CUSTOMER CARE HOTLINE

29. Participants may call the following Pepsi hotline numbers for inquiries on the promo:

    Customer Service Hotlines for Metro Manila (Mon-Fri, 9AM-6PM)
    - 02 631-3067 • 02 637-4647

    Local Customer Service Hotlines (Mon-Fri, 9AM-6PM)
    - Bacolod - 034 707-6776/034 434-5903
    - Batangas - 043 312-4586
    - Cagayan de Oro - 088 858-4210
    - Cebu - 032 233-1045
    - Davao - 082 227-3936/082 225-1628
    - Iloilo - 033 336-6435
    - Laguna - 049 562-8577
    - Legaspi - 052 820-0608/ 052 820-0867
    - Naga - 054 361-2594
    - Nueva Ecija - 044 600-3908
    - Pampanga - 049 963-7451
    - Pangasinan - 075 515-6319
    - Tacloban - 053 325-3590
    - Zamboanga - 062 984-1246
30. Participants can also text any of the following keywords to 2966 for inquiries:

    PEPSI ON (to get weekly updates on the number of Pepsi entries, schedule of draw dates and list of winners)
    PEPSI ENTRIES (to inquire about the number of raffle entries for the day and the week)
    PEPSI DRAWS (to inquire about the schedule of draws)
    PEPSI WINNERS (to inquire about the winners)
    PEPSI (to inquire about the promo)
31. All employees of Pepsi-Cola Products Philippines, Inc., PepsiCo International, PBI, Y&R, Buy 'N Text, Adventures & Expeditions Philippines, Inc., BBDO, Smart Communications, Inc., Globe Telecommunications, Inc., Sun Cellular and their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity and affinity are disqualified from joining the promo.
32. Decisions made by Y&R and BNT are subject to PCPPI's approval. All decisions of Pepsi-Cola Products Philippines, Inc. in concurrence with DOH-BFAD, are deemed final.
33. All prizes are tax-free.
34. Promo period is from April 25 to August 4, 2005.

Prudential Guarantee

Per DOH-BFAD Permit No. 0369, Series of 2005.

Mother of pearl

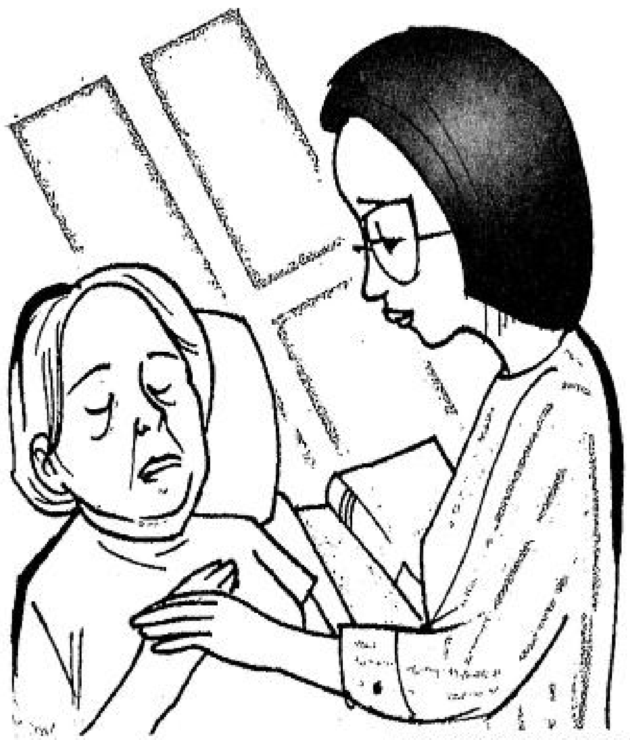


ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT G. RODRIGUEZ

By Alma Cruz Miclat
Contributor

MY MOTHER would have turned 85 last Oct. 4. She was a beautiful woman with a face still refreshing and looking young for her age, but showing steely strength and determination. She was the moving force in our Roque-Capuli-Cruz clan, the matriarch whom everybody looked up to and followed.

She left us in the afternoon of Aug. 14, 2004 when she complained of chills while vacationing in our Antipolo home. I was driving her to the Philippine Heart Center where she was just confined a month earlier, when I decided to drop by the nearest emergency clinic of the Antipolo District Hospital because I could not bear her sighs. It was a wrong move. The guard just watched as Mama's caregiver half-dragged her to the emergency room. The doctor on duty was out on-call, attending to a mother in labor and there was no other doctor left for emergency. When I asked the nurse on duty what happened to other patients who needed emergency attention, she curtly replied, "Tell that to the governor!" When Mama needed a bedpan, the nurse said they had none. Not in the emergency, not in the wards. "*Nagkakawalaan ng gamit dito* [supplies usually get lost here]."

I rushed mama out of that public hospital and drove like crazy in the pouring rain. I didn't bother about the other emergency clinic I would see along the way. I just wanted to get to the Heart Center where I knew my mother would be attended to with care. She passed out as we reached the gate of the Heart Center. Efforts to revive her proved futile.

Beijing, autumn, 1981

I felt the driver was going too slow taking my husband, Mario, our daughters Maningning and Banaue and the latter's amah Yang Aiyi, Mr. Liu Dazhao , the foreign experts' managing director, and me from our apartment to Beijing's Capitol International Airport.

I was overly excited and was not able to sleep well the previous nights. Mama was coming to China with my *Ate* Edna. We had not met since 1971 during the turbulent year of quarter storms prior to martial law.

As a young activist at UP, I left home without leaving a word, got married to a fellow UP activist in a secret underground rite, and left for China.

It was not until eight years later when we were able to communicate with our respective families. Only then did they learn that I now had a family and two children of my own, and working, together with Mario, as *waiguo chuanjia* or "foreign experts" at the Radio International of the Chinese Ministry of Radio, Film and Television.

Our mail exchanges coursed circuitously through a Bornean friend based in Hong Kong gave us a chance to bridge the eight-year gap, but were never enough.

Now, there was this direct flight by Philippine Airlines from Manila via Xiamen. Along the tree-lined avenue to the airport, I was overwhelmed by emotions of longing, recollections of our separation, and the prospects of reunion.

Director Liu showed some official papers to the airport officers and they let me meet Mama and *Ate* Edna at the immigration counter. Uttering not a word, I threw myself to Mama in a tight embrace, tears streaming out of our eyes wetting us both in that cold autumn day. Until I remembered I was supposed to give them the thick overcoats the customs officer allowed me to bring that they could immediately wear.

The ecstasy of seeing me in the flesh was, for my deeply religious mother, a heavenly answer to all her prayers every single day and every single moment during all those years of separation.

They were right on time for the two-week foreign experts tour of east China, which took them with Mario, Maningning and myself to the fabled cities of Yangzhou, Zhenjiang, Yixing, Wuxi and Suzhou. We cruised the Grand Canal and crossed the Yangtze, and got lost in metropolitan Shanghai. In Beijing, our never-ending chats during our visit to the Great Wall, the Ming Tombs, the Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square, the Great Hall of the People, the Temple of Heaven, and walks in various parks and gardens including the Beijing Zoo, seemed just diversions to the more important catching up with one another.

Mama and *Ate* Edna talked about the years of agony while waiting for news about me, news that never came, or news of false sightings of me and Mario at different places in the country, or a highly exaggerated news about my death at a military encounter.

Bataan, September 2004

I lighted a candle and said a little prayer for my mother, and my father, too, who had passed away two years before.

The day was supposed to be their 59th wedding anniversary. They got married on Sept. 25, 1945 wearing their khaki uniforms. My father was a soldier of the United States Armed Forces in the Far East (Usaffe) fighting the Japanese in Corregidor and Bataan while my mother was a medical attendant working with her sister who was a Usaffe nurse.

With the anti-Japanese war just ended, my father took my mother to his home in Negros Occidental. There they planned to build a family. They used part of their Usaffe backpay of P4,000 to build a house.

Receiving a telegram that her mother was seriously ill, the young couple decided to go back to Bataan. The boat they were taking to Manila met with a strong typhoon and the passengers were asked to throw away all their belongings. They did, including their *pasalubong* of live chickens. Mama would not want to ride a boat again. They stayed put in Bataan.

Again, with their backpay, they thought of opening a business. They bought some 10 bicycles to rent out. With so many relatives and friends who would borrow, instead of renting their rides, the business did not prosper.

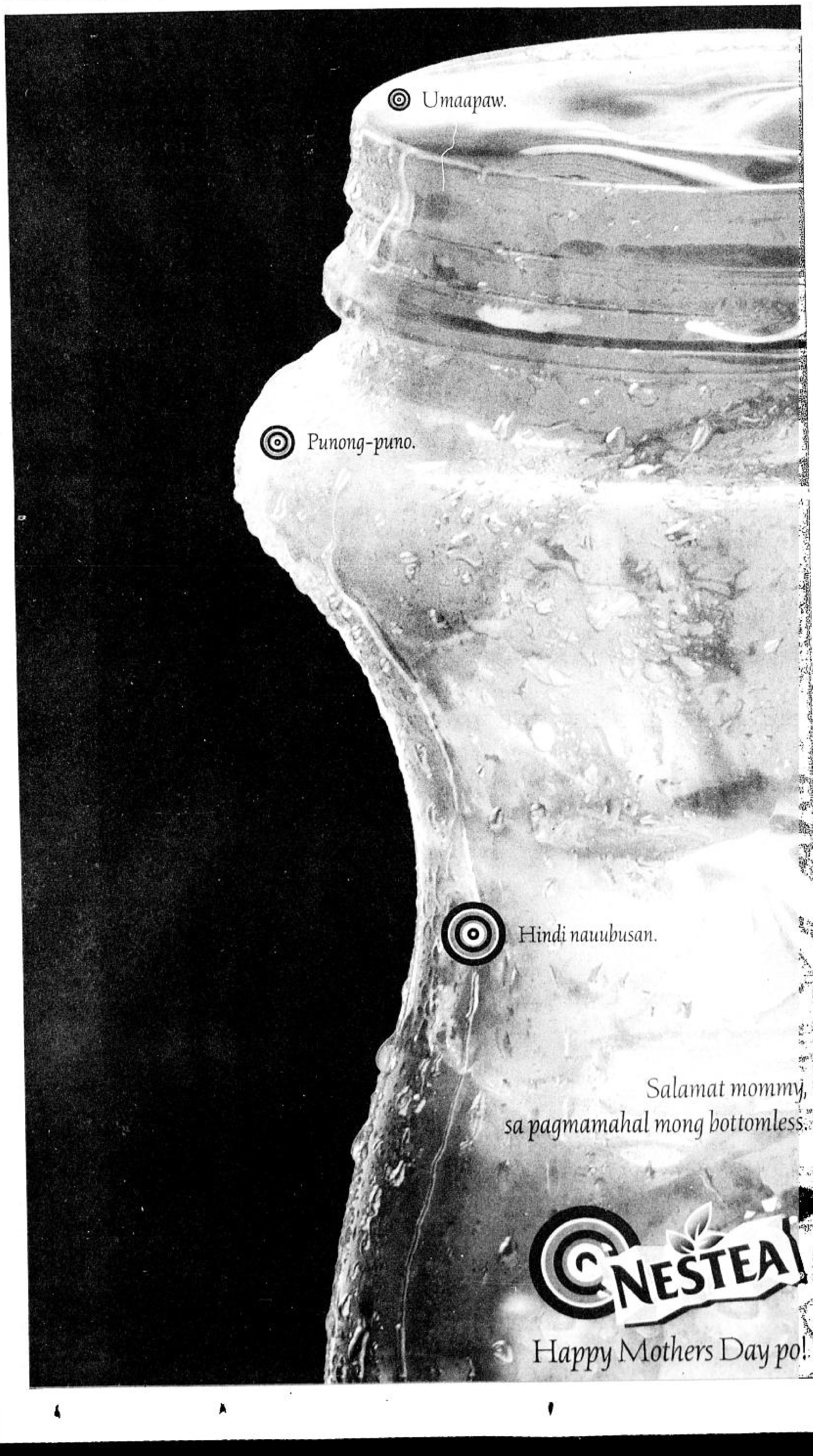
Mama's father taught my father various crafts involved in fishing, including the use of various kinds of nets. Mama sold the catch.

Carrying baskets full of fish, various seafood and shellfish, I imagined how she dreamt that one of the oysters in her basket should carry a precious pearl. Surely, such find could be part of the happy stories we share on the family table each Sunday lunch?

As their fishing activities flourished, the family also flourished; not in wealth but in the number of children. We came one after the other, all eight of us, at the rate of one baby every two years.

As we were growing up, the earnings from the catch always seemed not enough, especially when they vowed they would send all of us to college.

MOTHER/ E3



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92 and loving it

Nonagenarian Aurea Gonzalez is a writer of love fiction whose book has been published to acclaim in India

By Gibbs Cadiz,
son of Lina Haveria Cadiz

FREDA Jayme" sounds like a pseudonym an aspiring female writer with a more workaday byline would appropriate for her first book of stories.

And that's exactly what it is. "Freda Jayme" is the preferred byline of Aurea Gonzalez, a short-story writer whose book, "Catch Me A Firefly," first published locally by Bookmark in 1994, has been reprinted and launched in India.

Gonzalez is 92 years old.

She began writing stories in 1975, and so far has completed 65 short stories, many of which have been published in the long-running Mr. & Ms. magazine.

"I really love writing," she says. "There's personal satisfaction in it for me. I enjoy putting down my thoughts on paper."

About love

Gonzalez says most of her stories are about love, but "nearly all of them have small moral lessons in the end."

"Most love stories nowadays are very physical," she explains. "They're mostly about sex and the physical aspects only. But love can also be friendship, ardor, companionship, etc."

She turns to page 93 of her book and reads a passage from "The Greatest Sin:"

"My daughter," sighed mother, shaking her head. "Love is all things and more. Isn't pity a form of love? Love is affection, ardor, friendship, passion, and compassion too and desire. Love is humble; it is forgiving. Think over these, my girl, and be wise for the first time in your life."

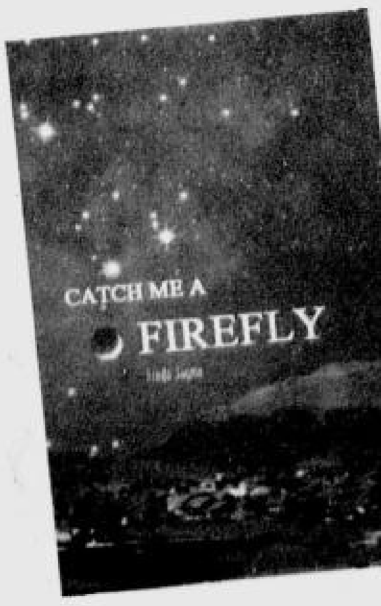
"The ideas for my stories I get from friends and family,". says Gonzalez. Her two aunts, for instance, became the basis for a story on two lifelong women friends. But although there are hints of autobiography in these stories, Gonzalez says no one in her family has objected or felt alluded to by her fictional characters.

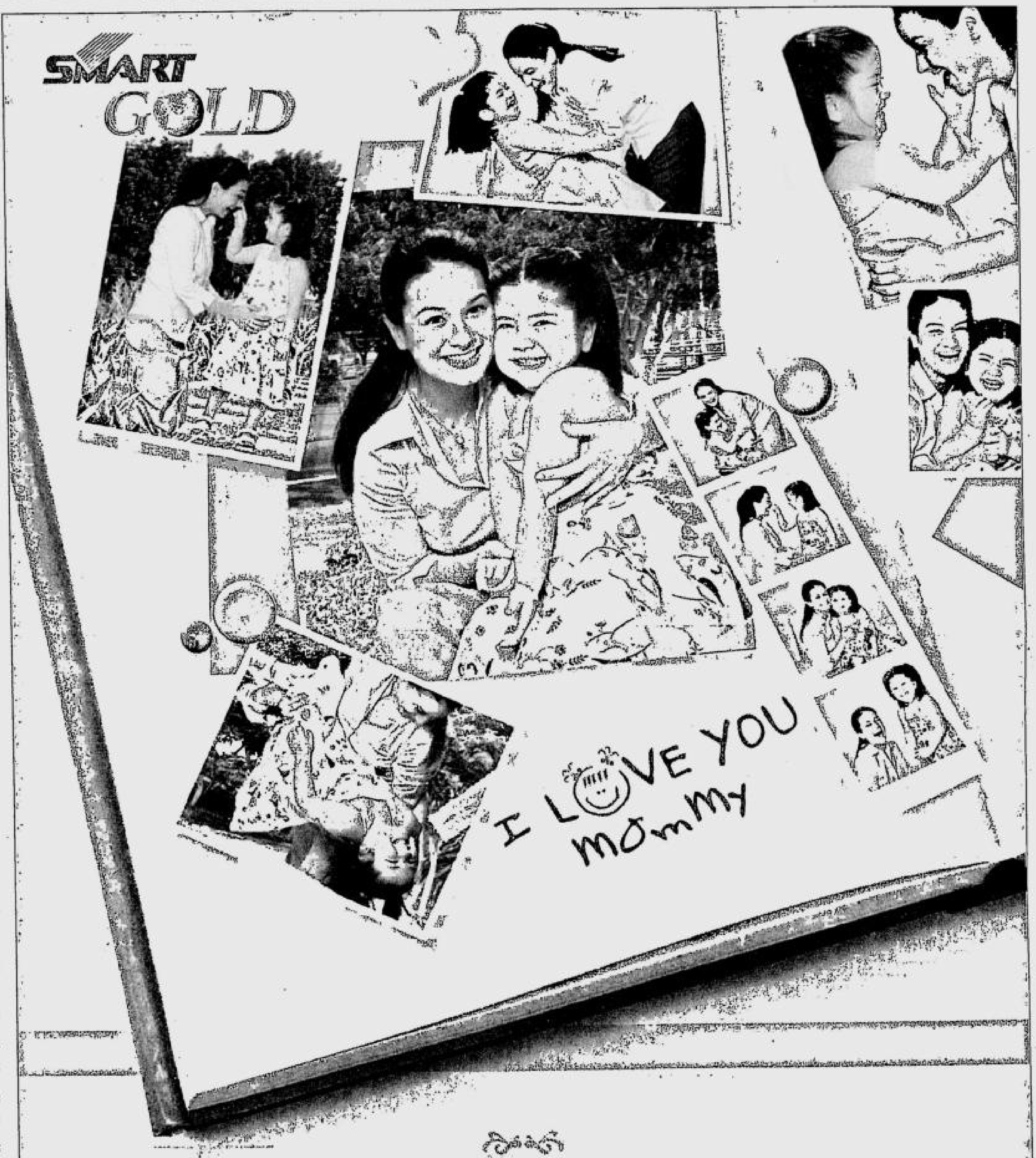
"If I like the story I'm writing, it takes about five days for me to finish it," she says.

Longevity

Gonzalez is married to husband Delfin, a lawyer who, at 91, has begun taking up his Master of Laws degree at San Beda College.

92/F3





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God could not be everywhere and therefore He made mothers. – JEWISH PROVERB

God made your mother for the very reason, for you to have someone who can turn to when the best thing is not yet to come. – UNKNOWN

A mother's love for her child is like nothing else in the world. It knows no law, no pity, it dares all things and crushes down remorselessly all that stands in its path. – AGATHA CHRISTIE

Every mother is like Moses. She does not enter the Promised Land. She prepares a world she will not see. – POPE PAUL VI

MMS MESSAGES
Text INSPIRE MOM MMS to 3483.

WOMEN
Author Unknown
By the time God made woman, he was into His sixth day of working overtime. An angel appeared and said, "Why are you spending...

MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS
We're daughters and mothers. Not so long ago! We give and take, And take and give. Along time's endless row Love is passed And love received, To be passed...

MY MOM IS VERY SWEET
My mom is very sweet and always caring. She worries about me when I am in school. She makes sure that I get where I am going. On time so that I don't feel like a fool. She...

A MOTHER'S WALK
The young mother set her foot on the path of life. "Is this the long way?" she asked. And the guide said, "Yes, and the way is hard. And you will be old before you reach the...

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CHURCH of Sta. Cruz

SAN AGUSTIN Church

MALATE Church

LAS PIÑAS Church

City of God

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

A WEEKEND in Metro Manila need not always be about going to the mall to check out the latest fashion, watch a movie or eat at a fast-food restaurant.

It can also be about soaking up a little bit of history that Filipinos generally do not know by heart.

Doing so does not require a lot of money, just an open mind to revisit a past that should not be forgotten.

One of the ways to refresh the memory is to take a good, hard look at the many churches that dot the metropolis, which many of us have taken for granted.

Unknown to most, some of these churches are not merely places of worship, but also cultural treasures and silent witnesses to some of the most historic moments in Philippine history.

San Agustin Church

One of these landmark churches is the San Agustin Church in Intramuros.

Known as one of the most popular wedding venues, with the June and December weekends booked about a year in advance, the San Agustin Church is said to be the oldest stone church in the Philippines, with the stones brought into Intramuros from the quarries of Guadalupe, Meycauayan and San Mateo.

It is in this World Heritage Site, touted to be a major landmark of baroque architecture, where the remains of conquistadors Legazpi and Salcedo are kept.

San Agustin also houses the family burial place of the foremost names of Spanish origin in the Philippines, such as Soriano, Roxas and Zobel.

Construction of the baroque masterpiece started in 1586 under the Augustinian order, and finished in 1604.

Through the years, it saw itself used as a parish, office for the preparation of the terms of the American occupation of Manila in 1898, concentration camp in 1941 and shelter during the bloody Battle of Manila in 1945.

It was greatly damaged by earthquakes and ravages of war, but it still stands proud, more than 400 years after the first stone was laid, just waiting for the interested visitor and churchgoer.

Manila Cathedral

Another church steeped in history is the nearby Manila Metropolitan Cathedral, more formally known as the Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception.

The massive edifice that dominates the Intramuros skyline is actually the sixth cathedral to stand on the same site.

The first structures were destroyed by natural calamities, with the fifth heavily damaged during the Battle of Manila.

The present structure was reconstructed from 1954-1958 under the late Manila Archbishop Rufino Santos.

It has hosted the most important events in the country's religious history, including the installation of Cardinal Rufino Santos, the first Filipino Cardinal, and the visits of Popes Paul VI and John Paul II.

Another one of its features, aside from being a fine example of architecture that takes the visitor back to how buildings must have looked in medieval times, is its cross, which is said to be the reference point of astronomical longitudes of the Philippine archipelago.

Malate Church

Not far from the Intramuros churches is the Malate Church.

It was put up 414 years ago by the Augustinians in 1588 and dedicated to Our Lady of Remedies.

The Malate Church's façade has been described as a "good blending of Muslim and baroque architecture; the solid compact stone structure is enhanced by the cylindrical end buttresses, the few openings and the overall ornateness of the design."

The statue of the church's patroness was brought from Spain in 1624.

It is an imposing stone structure, which the British used in 1762 as protection of the rear guard during the capture of Manila.

The church was greatly damaged by the 1863 earthquake, which also damaged most other churches in Manila.

The Malate church was administered by the Augustinians, seculars, Redemptorists and the Columban fathers.

The National Historical Institute plaque in front of the church pays tribute to three of these Columban fathers—Patrick Kelly, John Henaghan and Joseph Managhan—who were among the tens of thousands of Malate parishioners who died in the hands of the Japanese and Americans during the Battle for Manila, from Feb. 3-17, 1945.

The Battle for Manila is described as one of the most brutal episodes in the history of Asia and the Pacific.

Heavy artillery barrage by American forces to drive away the Japanese left over 100,000 civilians dead, just a few months before the end of the war.

Not too many remember the horror of that episode of World War II, but Malate Church does and so will those who visit her.

Binondo Church

Binondo Church in Chinatown was put up by the Dominican order in 1587 to serve the Chinese Catholics.

It was, however, destroyed during the English invasion of 1762. Another structure was put in its place but was again damaged during World War II.

The church is famous as it was here where St. Lorenzo Ruiz served as an altar boy. The seeds of his religious zeal were planted here and it led to Ruiz's elevation as the country's first saint. He was canonized by the late Pope John Paul II.

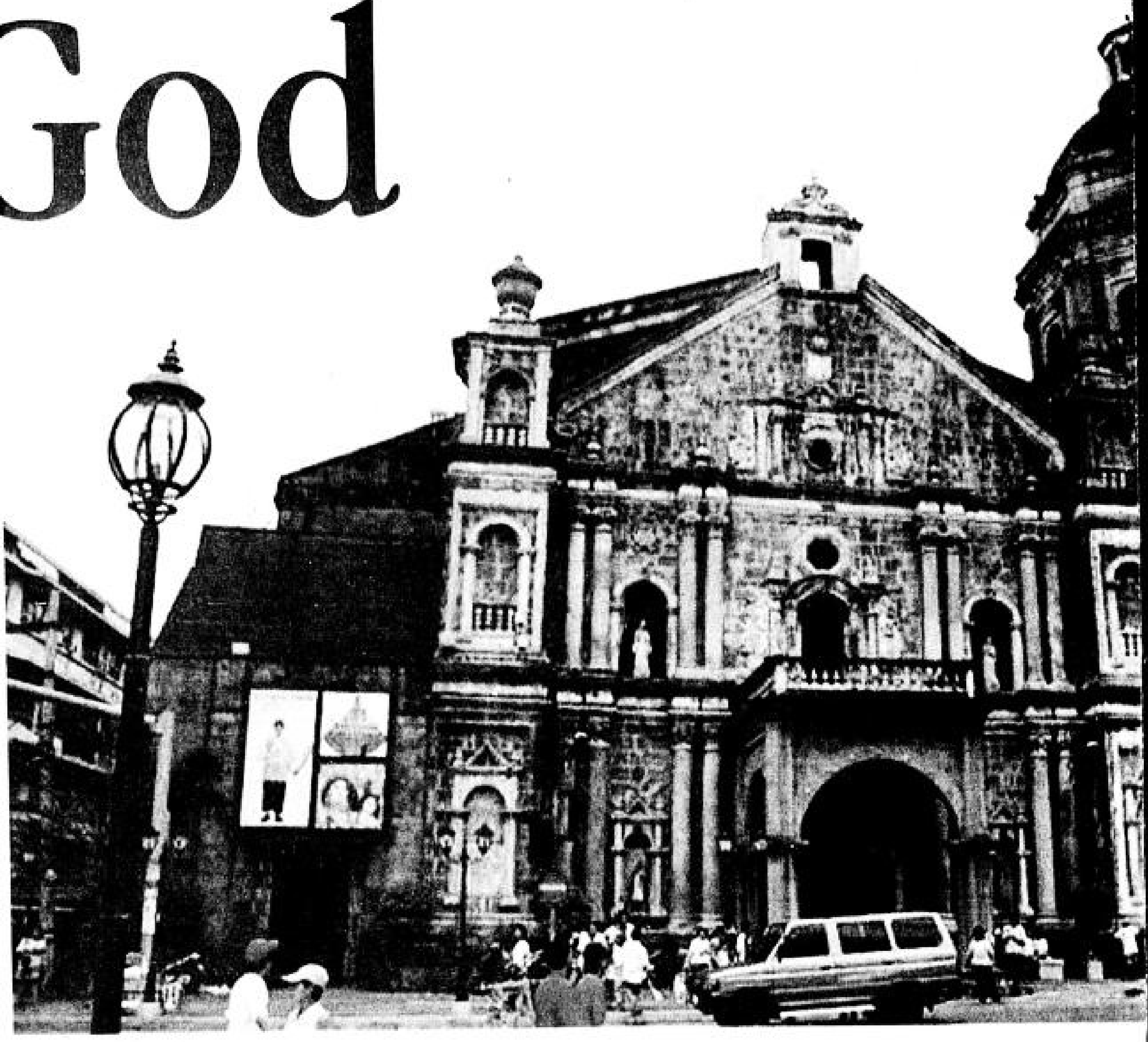
Binondo Church, which has been renamed Basilica Minore de San Lorenzo Ruiz is also home to the image of Nuestra Señora de Pronto Socorro, thought to be the oldest painting in the Philippines.

Church of Sta. Cruz

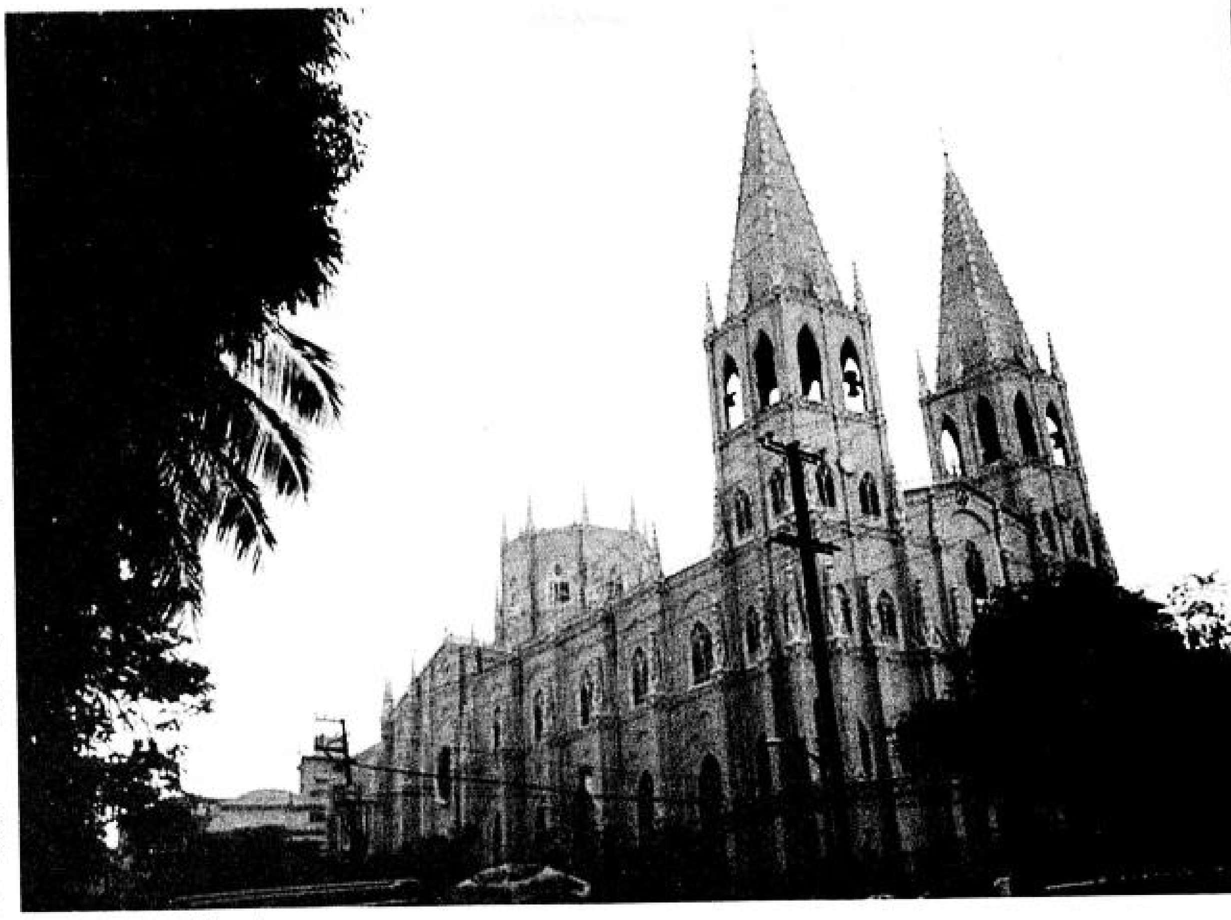
This small church with a simple altar was built by the Jesuits in 1768, and adjoining it was what used to be the Jesuit College of San Ildefonso. It became a stone church by the 18th century.

The titular patroness is the Nuestra Señora del Pilar, and the Confraternity of del Pilar was founded in this church in 1743.

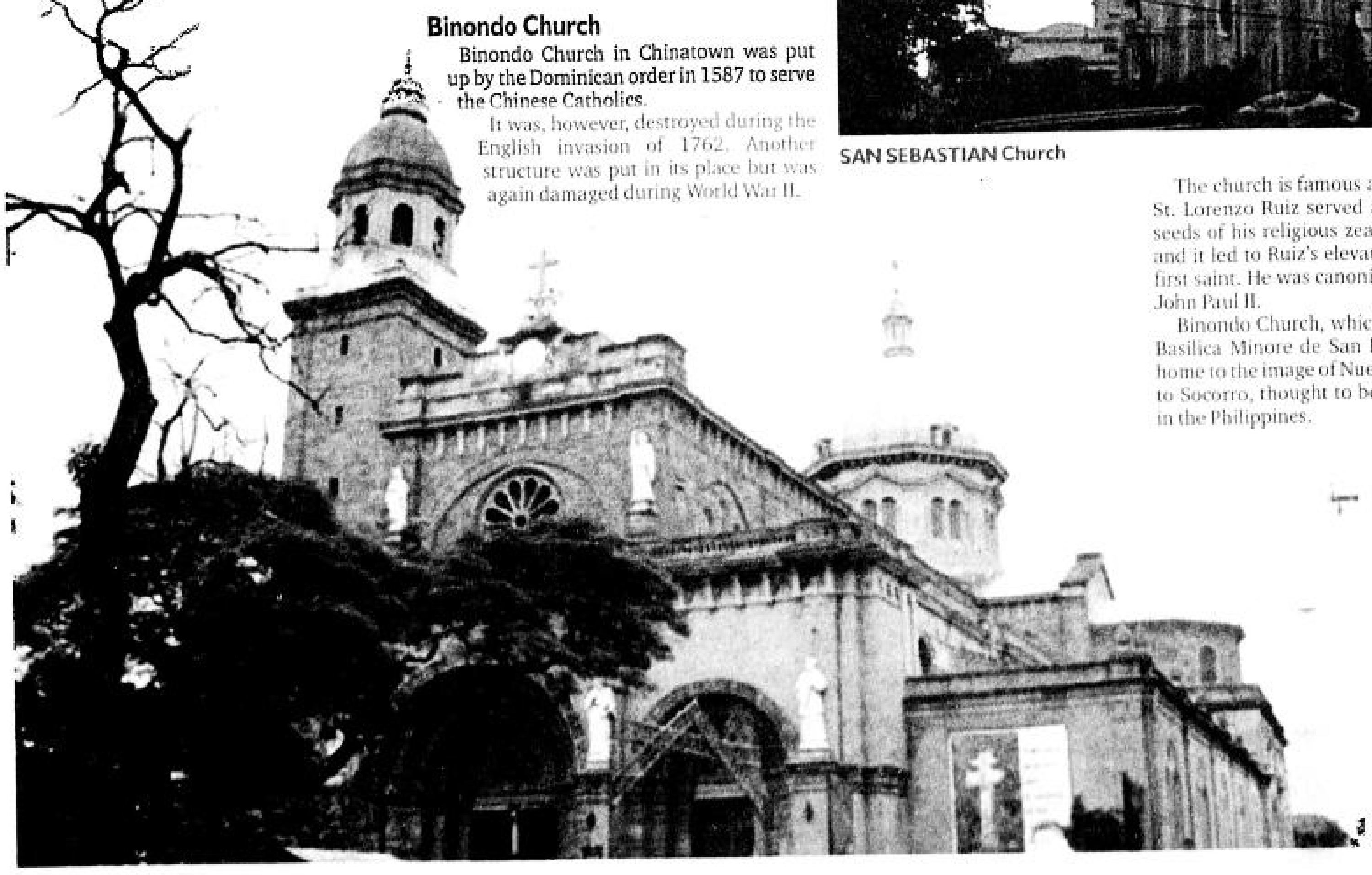
Surrounding the church is the plaza where the British returned Manila to Simon de Anda



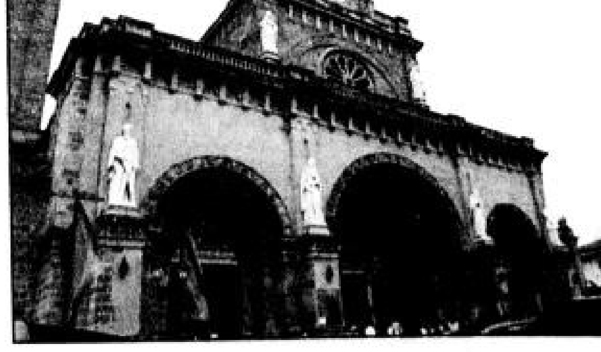
BINONDO Church



SAN SEBASTIAN Church



MANILA Cathedral



MANILA Cathedral

in 1764.

It's hard to tell from the many jeeps obscuring the view of the church, but the Sta. Cruz church used to be the center of what was the prosperous Sta. Cruz district of Manila.

The district was a sleepy agricultural backwater in the 16th century, but became one of the premier economic hubs of Manila by the 18th century.

In the mid-19th century, Sta. Cruz flourished with mansions such as the Mauricio house on Calle Anloague depicted by Rizal in "Noli Me Tangere."

San Sebastian Church

Just a short drive away is the San Sebastian Church, hidden among the low-rise buildings in Manila. It is as much renowned for its architecture as it is for the material used in building the 19th-century structure.

Designed by Genaro Palacios, the church with its twin towers, was built using structural metal brought in piece by piece from Belgium, and erected by Belgian engineers.

It was blessed in 1891, and the Minor Basilica's patroness is Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.

The imposing all-steel structure is run by the Recollect fathers. Earlier churches put up by Recollect friars in the 1600s were destroyed by earthquakes, which is just as well as it led to the construction of an awesome piece of architecture that Filipinos should not fail to visit.

The years and rust, however, have taken their toll causing the World Monuments Watch to include the neo-gothic steel church in the 1998 list of 100 endangered cultural heritage sites and historical landmarks in the world.

The World Monuments Watch called the centuries-old church a "heritage at risk" and said the church needs to be preserved to the full.

The 110-year-old San Sebastian Church, reputedly the world's only existing all-steel church, has pre-fabricated steel parts—the two spires, facade and stretches of the church's central nave—were all done in Belgium and believed to have been designed by Gustave Eiffel.

Las Piñas Church

A visit to the St. Joseph's Church in Las Piñas is a must if only for its bamboo organ.

Put up by Recollect father Diego Cera, the bamboo organ was made of 902 bamboo poles and 129 tin tubes from 1816-1824.

Cera was also the architect behind the Zapote and Pulang Lupa bridges in this part of the city.

The organ was slightly damaged due to natural calamities and the war when the church was turned into a prison camp and then a medical facility during liberation, it was restored in 1977 and has been playing beautiful music ever since.

These are just some of the many beautiful churches that are ripe for a visit. So consider looking at one of them the next time you hanker for weekend time well spent.

92 and loving it

From page F1

Longevity is a trait shared by almost everyone in the family. Gonzalez's two sisters, Pilar (93) and Lourdes (88), are both still active.

The three sisters were born in Manila in the old Trozo area of Santa Cruz, an enclave of Spanish-Filipino families during the Spanish era. Gonzalez still converses with her sisters in fluent Spanish.

After graduating with an education degree from St. Theresa's College, Gonzalez taught high school in the Malate Catholic School until December 1941. It was during the early years of her marriage to Delfin, as a young housewife, that she began to write down her short stories.

The couple sired four boys and a girl, now all professionals. One of them, Delfin Jr., is the chief finance officer of Globe Telecom. Another son, Federico, works in Bombay, India.

Indian launch

It was Federico who gave copies of his mother's book to friends as a gift. These friends loved the book so much that they encouraged Federico to have the book published in India, a country with a strong English-language-reading public.

Gonzalez is only too happy to recall how her book was published by Krishna B. Kotak and launched in India:

"The site of the book launching was the Hilton Towers in Bombay, and two leading Indian actors read stories from my book," she says, beaming.

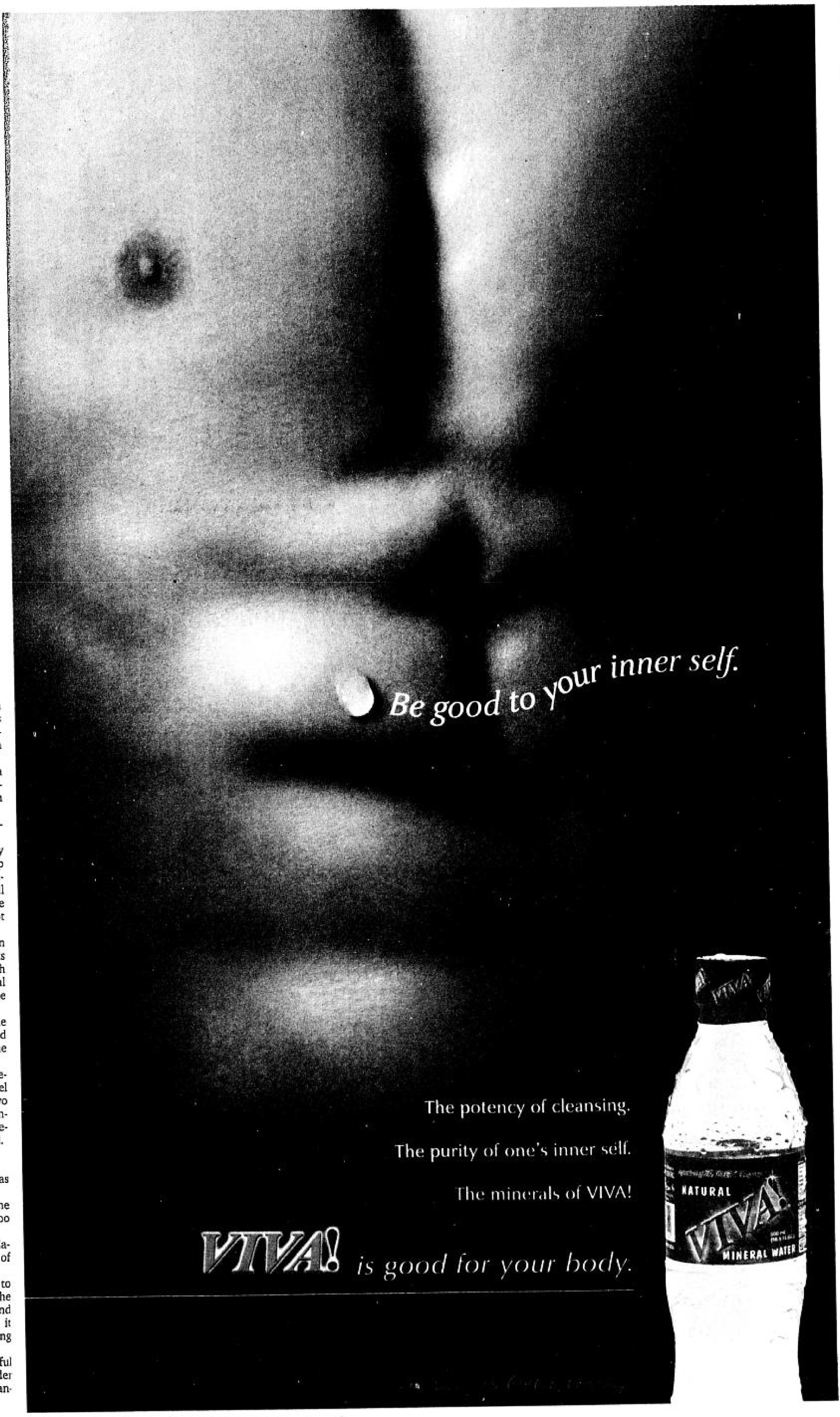
Even as she has seen her stories published, Gonzales hasn't stopped doodling and committing more stories to paper. It's her exercise, she says, a way to keep herself alert. She also reads voraciously.

"Read anything," she says. "Cut TV time by half and read!"

Her secret to a long, happy and productive life? "I don't think about age. It will come whether you like it or not, so what's the use thinking about it?"

E-mail the author at gcadiz@inquirer.com.ph

"I DON'T think about age. It will come whether you like it or not, so what's the use thinking about it?"



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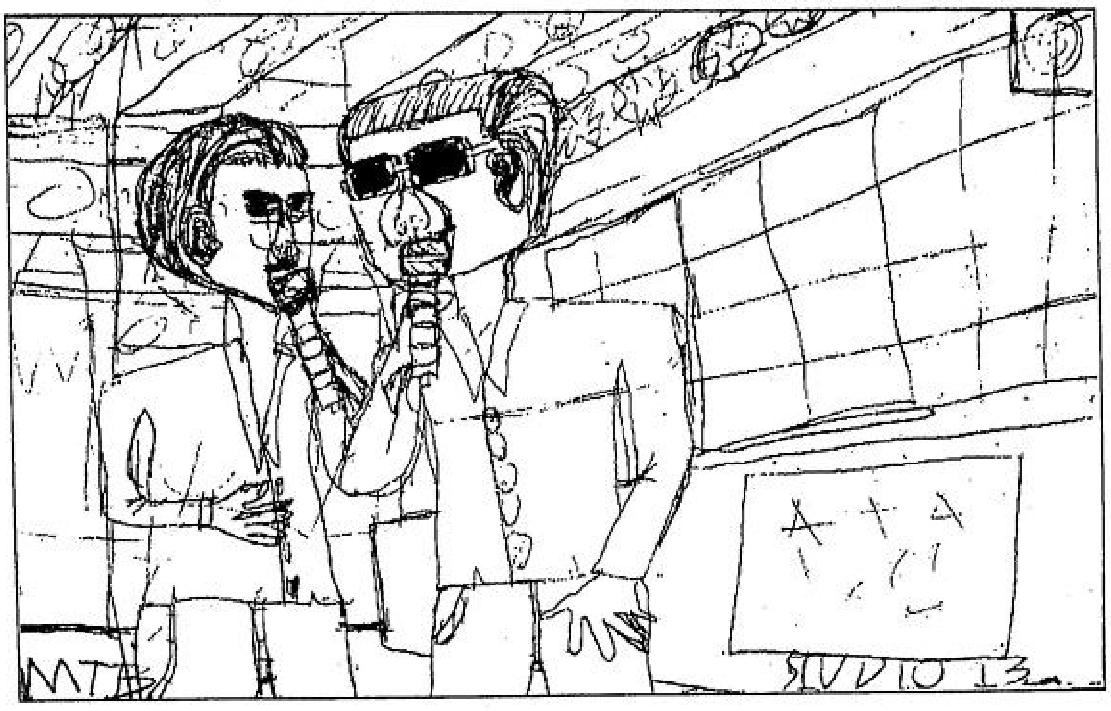
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Sunday **LIFESTYLE**
SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2005

JESSIE Boy Lopez, 13, and his works



"NEWS"

A 13-year-old boy gets over the trauma of domestic abuse through art

The abused child also rises

By Amadis Ma. Guerrero
Contributor

NOT BEING toilet-trained, he lived in his own filth in a box under the kitchen sink for several years. His custodian, a woman with no regular means of income, would physically abuse him. His screams alerted the neighbors, who called ABS-CBN's Bantay Bata (163), then just starting its services.

And that is how Jessie Boy was rescued in 1997.

"He didn't even know his full name, so we gave him the name Lopez," says Dulce Festin-Baybay, public relations director of the ABS-CBN Foundation, Inc.

The traumatic experience left its mark on Jessie Boy Lopez, now 13. His development was delayed for three years. He is a very restless child, and sometimes throws a tantrum.

"We want to say that he will be normal but it will take time," observes Baybay. "He needs a lot of psychiatric care."

Ah, but there is a silver lining.

Young artist

Jessie Boy turned out to be a talented visual artist, highly skilled in rendering the world around him in line drawings: cityscapes, TV shows, media vehicles and practitioners, flyovers, tollgates, and the like.

It was Girlie Aragon, an art aficionado, deputy director of Bantay Bata, who discovered Jessie Boy's talent.

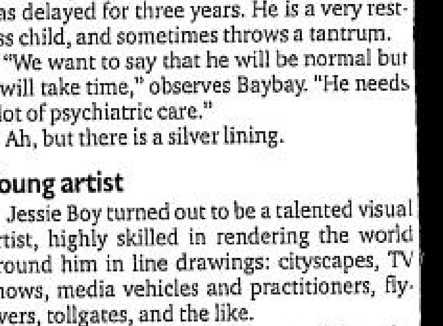
"Watching Jessie at work," she says, "one is struck by the concentration, intuition, thought process and action that he brings to his pencil and small piece of paper."

Aragon adds, "These drawings of Jessie are remarkable for their mastery of perspective and proportion, two of the most difficult elements for any aspiring artist."

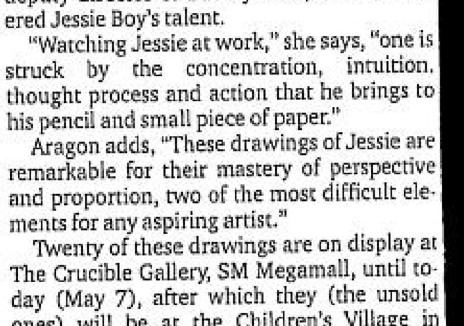
Twenty of these drawings are on display at The Crucible Gallery, SM Megamall, until today (May 7), after which they (the unsold ones) will be at the Children's Village in Norzagaray, Bulacan. Seven works were sold on opening day, March 4.

Will it be a happy ending for Jessie Boy? One certainly hopes so, after all he has been through. He was malnourished when he was rescued, and weighed only 13 pounds. Although he was five years old at the time, he looked two.

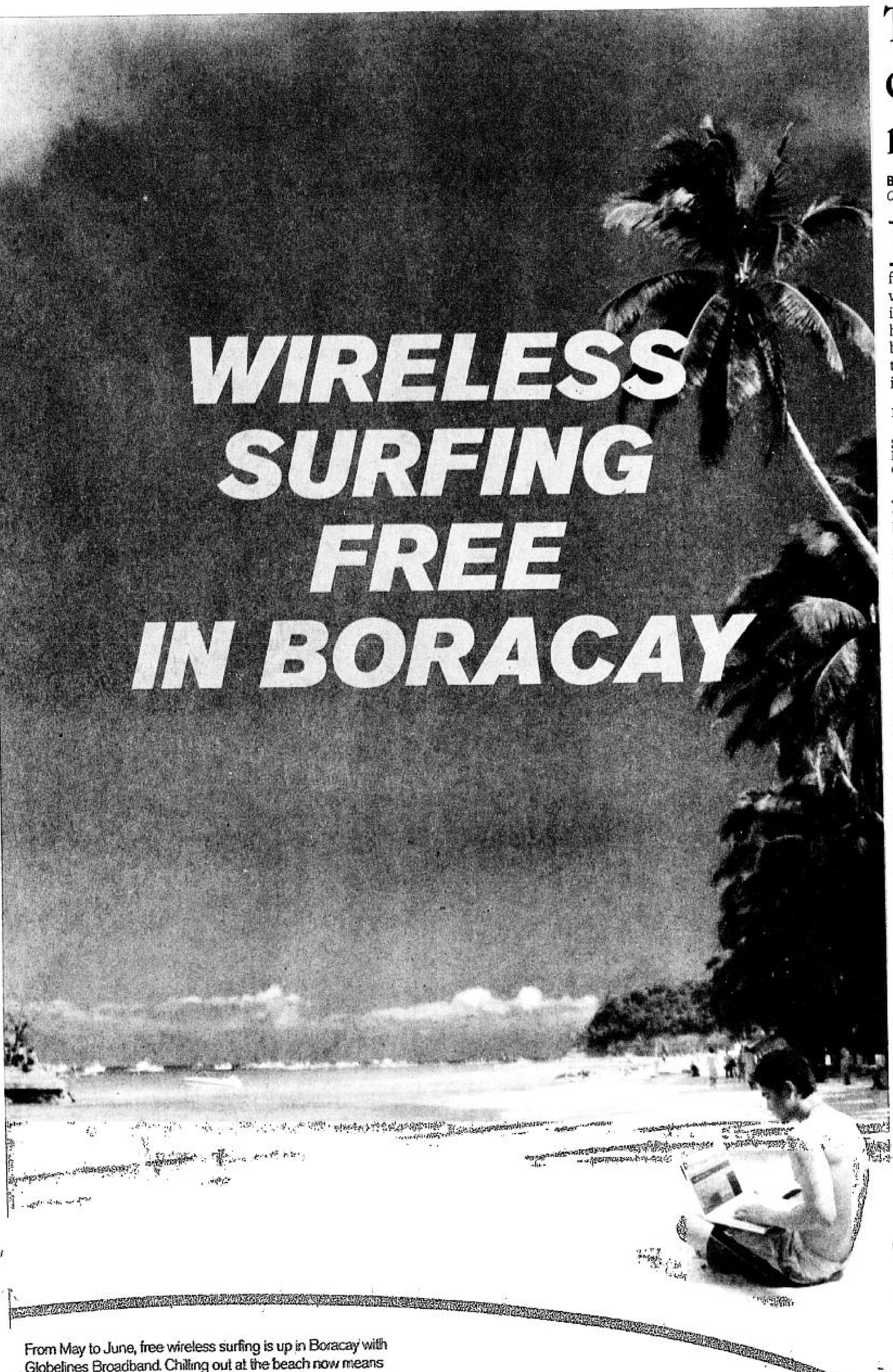
"The first time he saw me, he embraced my leg," recalled Baybay. "He was abandoned by his mother. Nobody wants him, so he'll stay with us forever. We don't mind, we'll take care of him. He needs a mother, and we at the foundation will be his mothers."



"METRO Tren"



"3 in 1"



From May to June, free wireless surfing is up in Boracay with Globelines Broadband. Chilling out at the beach now means downloading chill out music while you sit by the waves or watching a video stream of playoff highlights while you wiggle your toes in the sand. With Globelines Broadband, the country's favorite vacation spot is now one giant hotspot.

For the best Wi-Fi experience, visit any of our resort partners in Boracay: Paradise Garden Resort Hotel, La Carmela De Boracay Resort Hotel, Boracay Beach Chalets, Boracay Regency Beach Resort, Le Soleil de Boracay, Mango-Ray Resort, Red Coconut, Crystal Sand Beach Resort, Boracay Plaza Resort, Pearl of the Pacific, Fridays Boracay, Villa Camilla

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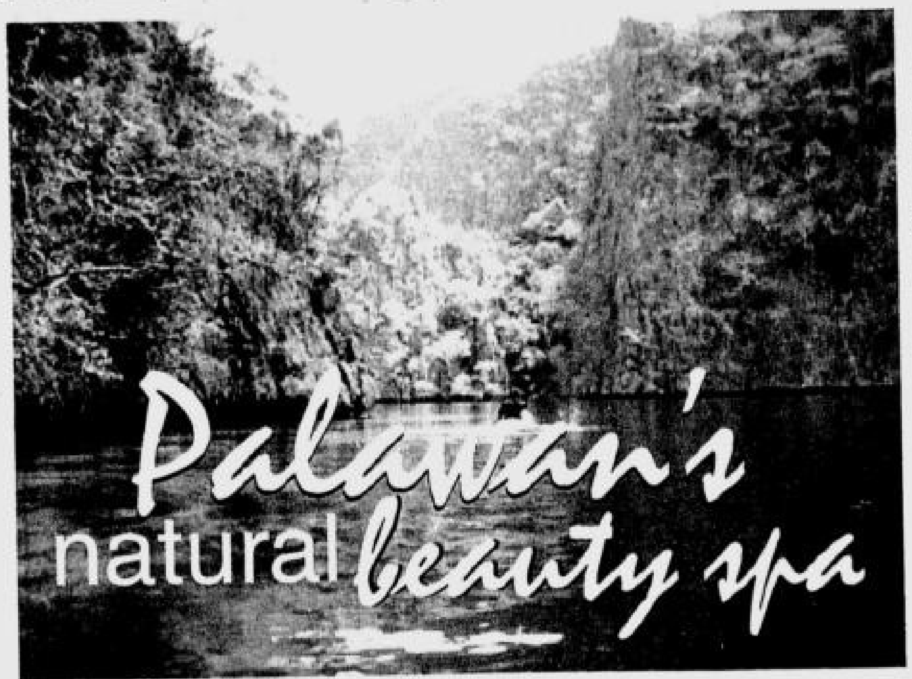

Palawan's natural beauty spa

By Tess Dono
Contributor

LET NATURE give your skin and body a rare treatment!

Maquinit Salt Water Hot Spring. Twin Lagoon. Kayangan Lake!

Coron, a special place in Northern Palawan, is blessed with many wonderful places. And, believe it or not, a visit to these sites can condition your body and result in fairer skin.

Maquinit Salt Water Hot Spring is the only known saltwater hot spring in the Philippines, if not in the world. Located at the east side of the town, this Palawan wonder lies between a mountain and the blue sea whose shores are lined with mangrove trees. The place is accessible by sea or by land, thanks to the new road network initiated by Gov. Joel Reyes.

In Maquinit, your skin toning begins. With its 40°C water temperature, a dip into a huge pool is considered therapeutic. Tension is eased from nerves and muscles while the mildly hot saltwater cleanses the skin. Skin pores are opened to rid them of trapped dirt.

Sanitization and cleansing make the skin more responsive. A longer soak helps remove muscle pains and discomfort in the joints.

A 10-minute boat ride brings you to your next skin treatment destination, the twin lagoon nestled in a cathedral of huge limestone formation in what is known as Calis mountain.

The twin lagoon, which is filled with saltwater, has a temperature of about 20°C. To swim to the place, you pass through a narrow opening on the side of the mountain. Going through it is like moving into another world. The water is cool and colorful plants and trees cling to the sides of the gray limestone cliffs. The serenity of the place helps you clearn your mind of worries and stress caused by busy city life.

Once in the lagoon time stops. The friendly cool water soothes your body and does real wonders to your skin. The saltwater is cool and clean and your skin becomes softer with more life in it. Swimming, of course, benefits the body, particularly the joints.

Though you may wished to stay longer, another site beckons, waiting to be explored.

Another 10-minute boat ride will bring you to another mountain opening leading to the well-known lake, the Kayangan. Chosen the cleanest lake in the country for several

PALAWAN/ G2

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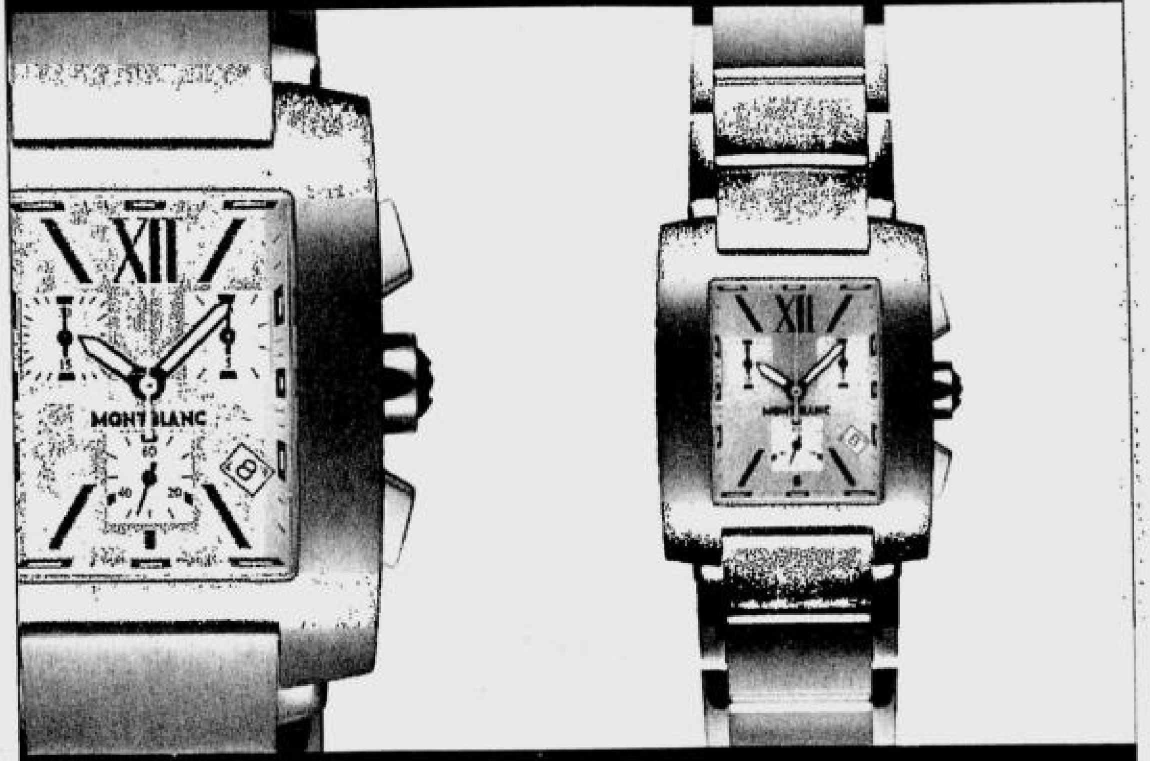

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While most hotels cram a family of four in a room with only 2 beds and an extra roll-in cot, The Legend Villas has designed rooms for a family with 4 beds fit for families. They can be configured to 1 queen size bed and 2 single beds or 4 separate beds. And even if Dad has a rush deadline to meet (heaven forbid!), there's a work table available with a data port.

A Family Room also includes toilet & bath, one IDD telephone line with Internet access, walk-in closet, mini bar and cable television.

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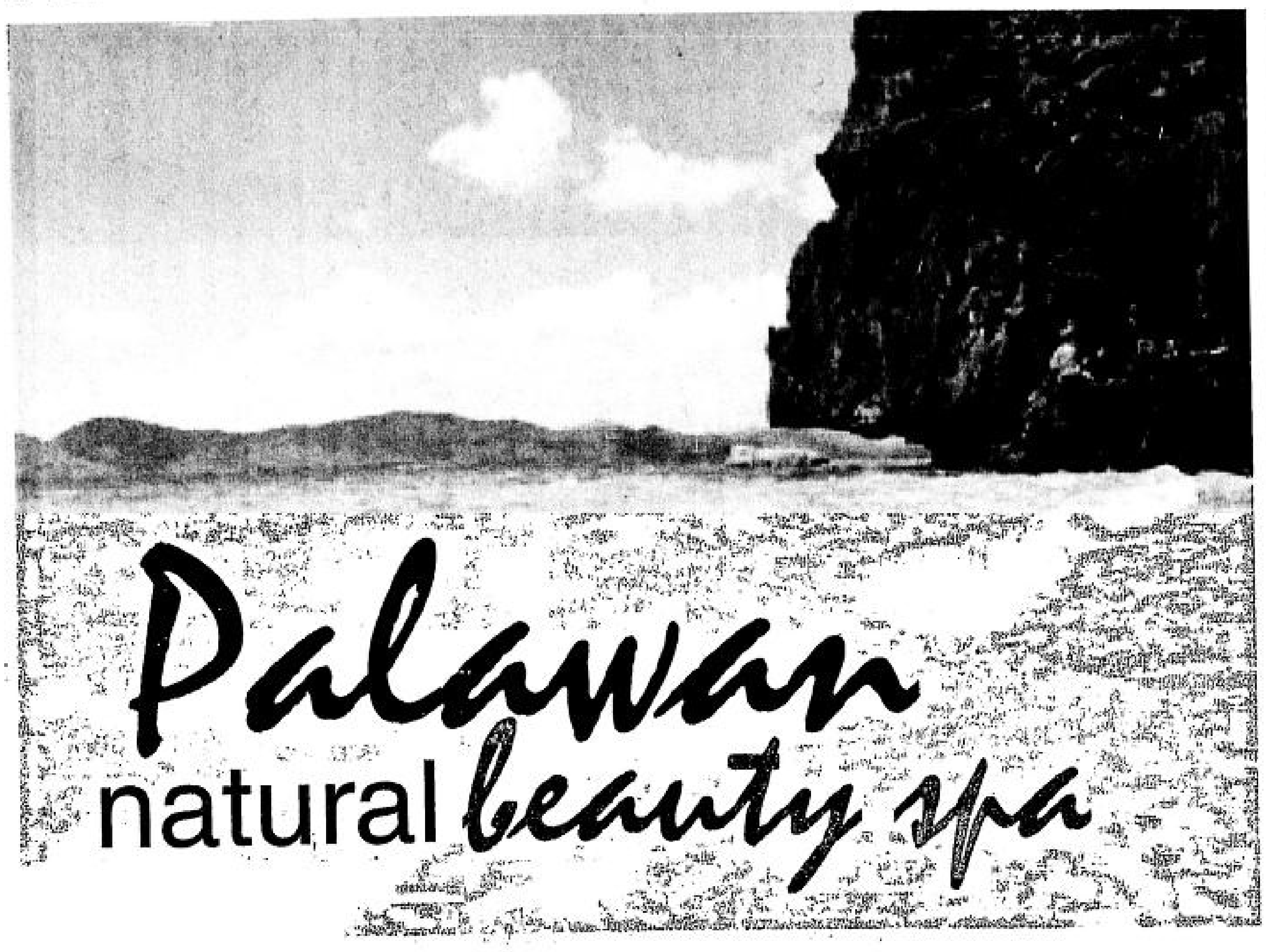


Palawan natural beauty spa

From page G1

years, going to the lake is another exercise you will never forget.

Tricky and challenging stone steps will bring you to the top of the mountain, an exhausting exercise that will make you perspire profusely. The trees growing densely along the way protect you from direct sunlight. Again muscles are stretched, the moderate ascent bringing more benefits to the body.

But again, the real beneficiary is your skin, especially when you take a dip in the lake. Water is a mixture of salt and fresh or brackish at body temperature.

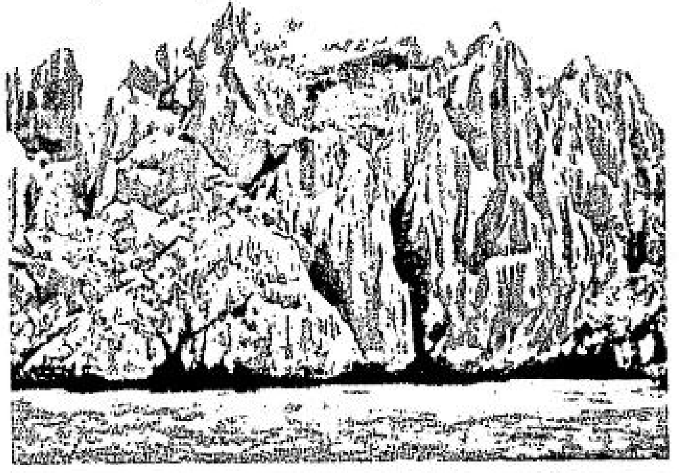
The brackish water gives the final treatment to the skin. With the skin pores now closed and the body temperature slightly higher because of the climb, the lake waters will sweep away the remaining harmful residue on top of the skin. At normal body temperature, the lake waters bring back the vibrant skin you once had.

A swim across the lake is like doing twice the length of an Olympic pool. Only you do it in the rare and pleasant surrounding of huge rock formation and lush vegetation, a fitting backdrop to a remarkable body of water.

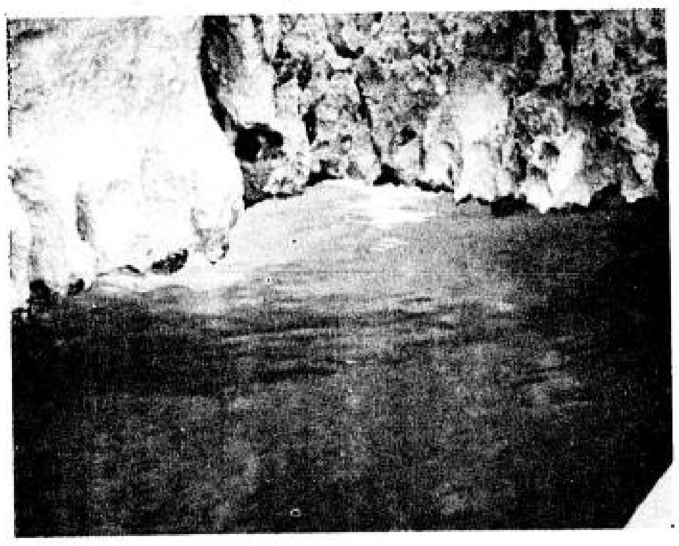
Of course, going home in a happy mode is something money can't buy. You finish up with a relaxed mind and body, ready to tackle the rigors of city life once again.

So remember when you visit Coron, North of Palawan, to get the full regimen of skin care it offers—beginning with a hot soak at Maquinit Salt Water Hot Spring, followed by the cool waters of the twin lagoon, and ending with the brackish water of Kayangan Lake.

For inquiries call 9950039 or at 0919-2524685.



A visit to various sites of Coron can condition your body and result in fairer skin



TRAVELBRIEFS

Taal project promotes agri-tourism

THE LOCAL government of Lemery, Batangas launches today RBB Carrera de los Caballos at Barangay San Martin, Taal, Batangas. The project aims to upgrade the level of horse breeding in Lemery, Batangas and find wider market for local horses as well as new and better bloodlines. Breeders, trainers and riders from different barangays, towns and provinces are invited to the event. Call 5251805/ 5256538/ 0917-8441166.

Intramuros presents Quezon's Maytime festivities

THE MAYOHAN Festival of Quezon province will be staged on May 13-15 in Intramuros, Manila. On May 13, a demonstration of making the pinuso and pabitin, procession of the image of San Isidro de Labrador and offering of flower bouquets to the Blessed Virgin Mary will be held. On May 14, the Santacruzan, a fashion show and baylehan will be held. On May 15, everyone is invited to the Mass at 4 p.m., San Isidro de Labrador procession and evening concert.

Camarines Sur's Kaogma Festival

CAMARINES SUR stages Kaogma Festival on May 21-27. The festival begins with a motorcade of floats from Pili to Naga and back to Pili's Kapitolyo. There'll be a display of fireworks, fire eaters, fire walkers and fire thrower, colorful booths, shows, beauty pageant and street party.

Shoppers' challenge

SINGAPORE Tourism Board-Philippines and MasterCard International team up for Xtreme Shopper Search, ongoing until May 31 at Alabang Town Center, Power Plant Mall, Makati and The Podium, Ortigas. The promo is open to all physically fit Filipino citizens residing in the Philippines who are approved and activated MasterCard and MasterCard Electronic cardholders of good standing. Call 8130946.

Summerscape package

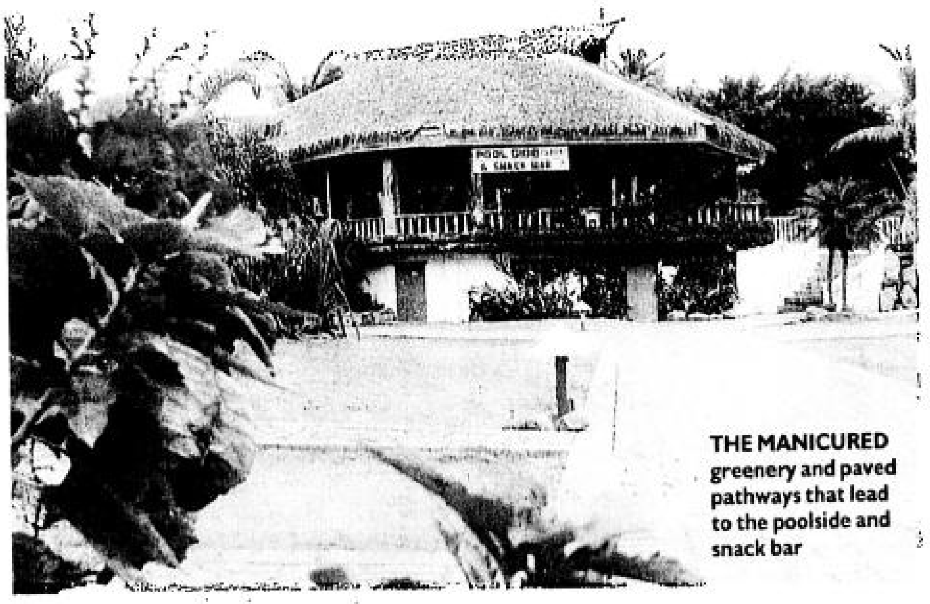
THE RICHMONDE Hotel features Summerscape Room Package until June 12. Stay at any of the hotel's guest rooms for two consecutive weekend nights and get 50 percent off on room rates. The package comes with buffet breakfast for two for the first night, late check-out up to 4 p.m. and free use of Health Club facilities. Call 6387777.

Discovery's program for kids

DISCOVERY Suites' Urban Tykes Program offers special family services and amenities geared towards spending family time together aside from perks, discount vouchers and freebies. Offered at no extra charge, the program provides fun-filled adventures, learning activities and playtime. Call 6352222.

Gordon welcomes low-budget airlines

SEN. RICHARD Gordon welcomes the entry of low-budget airlines into the Philippines, saying it would boost tourism. The Singapore-based Jetstar Asia airlines started flying daily round-trip flights between Manila and Singapore at relatively low prices. To celebrate the Manila launch, a special introductory price for one-way airfare from Manila to Singapore was offered at $59. After which, everyday low fares will start from $79. Tickets are available for purchase by logging on to www.jetstarasia.com. Call(632) 3104744.



THE MANICURED greenery and paved pathways that lead to the poolside and snack bar

Celebrate summer at White Rock

WHITE ROCK Beach Resort offers cogon huts with 34 new Mediterranean-inspired cabanas. The 124 upgraded rooms, 14 of which are 2-bedroom family rooms and cottages are elegant and functional for individual and group use. The beach also underwent contouring to give it a wider and pristine swimming area for sea lovers. Additional jet skis and banana boats are also available. The Wellness Center is an added destination for those seeking a massage and facial therapy. Call 4212781/ 4212782/ 4212785.

Caravans all over the islands

GLOBE Handyphone has launched "Island Caravan," a series of travel packages, in cooperation with the Department of Tourism, Island Caravan Consortium and Skoal Advertising.

The program includes four major runs this summer and eight thematic runs throughout the year. The first run, "Island Quest: The Nautical Highway Adventure," kicked off early this month and took participants to the beaches of Puerto Galera and Boracay, and to Calapan, the capital city of Oriental Mindoro.

The next three summer runs are "Tropical Jewels: The Visayan Charm," an exploration of cultural heritage sites in Cebu, Bohol, Dumaguete and Siquijor; "North Philippines Expedition: The Great Outdoor Escapade" and "Southern Feat: The Trailblazing Challenge," which will feature outdoor sports such as spelunking, kayaking and surfing in the Ilocos region and Mindanao, respectively.

The thematic runs will cover other areas nationwide, focusing on "undiscovered" places that bid fair to become prime destinations, such as Camiguin, the Bicol region, North Luzon, Bohol, Palawan and the Batanes islands.

Seasonal events will be highlighted during short educational and cultural trips, such as "Heroes' Journey" (covering historic spots in Manila, Bulacan, Subic, Clark and Bataan), which coincides with Independence Day, and the Marian Pilgrimage (covering Antipolo, Quezon, Laguna and Naga) for the Virgin Mary's feast day in September.

Through all these, both Filipino and foreign travelers can enjoy worry-free connectivity with Globe International Services.

The Globe Traveler's SIM allows constant touch with family and friends abroad with its 40 cents IDD. Other communication options are the Globe International Text (P15/send in Globe Prepaid) and International MMS (P20/photo, P40/video).

Three events, three cultures

CEBU CEBU

Jaime Picornell

THE ARTS Council of Cebu closed its season with three events representing the cultures of as many different countries. All were held at the excellently equipped Marcelo Fernan Press Center's auditorium. Read that as excellent acoustics.

The first event starred **Linda Marlowe**, brought over by the British Council in a one-woman theater titled "No Fear." It was a hit at the Edinburgh Festival in 2003. Linda portrayed a circus artist on the eve of her 100th birthday who was looking back at the many careers she had embarked on, with great hilarity.

The best part was the finale, when she recalled her trapeze act. Off went Linda, swinging upside down with the dexterity of an accurate acrobat.

There was a rush to congratulate her backstage after the show. However, it seemed Linda was never coming out of the loo. When she emerged, she said she had been trying to flush down all the tissue paper she had used. It must have been a whole roll, someone remarked.

Quizzical eyebrows were raised when someone else wondered what she had been wiping so much tissue paper with. "Perhaps her mouth," another one hissed. The comments throughout the show had been about the repeated use of the word "shit." "Verbal diarrhea," giggled a matron.

Israel's turn

Then came "The Anthology" presented by the Embassy of Israel. Ambassador **Joshua Sagi** and his charming wife Mme. **Hannah Sagi** came for the occasion, as did **Guy Feldman**, the embassy's deputy head of mission.

There was a pre-performance reception during which Ambassador Sagi spoke a few words, most of them to thank Arts Council president **Petite Garcia** for the wonderful cooperation extended to this event and many other cultural efforts in the past.

"The Anthology" is usually presented in a salon setting, amid fragrant candlelight, but this time it was in a stage with an audience of more than 250. The results were excellent, as that ambiance of coziness was achieved. The show was first presented at the Zurich festival in 1997, and since then, it has been touring the world to critical acclaim.

It is about a Holocaust survivor, played by **Smadar Yaaron**, who tells her son, played by **Moni Yosef**, how she lived through those horrors, sustained solely by her music. The recollections are sad, of course, yet philosophical, and at times interspersed with wisps of humor.

She interacts with the audience, offering them wine, or candy, and so does the son. Then they end up on top of the piano from whence she slides down, leaving him to do a stomping session while condemning the Nazis.

Some thought this aggression should have been vented elsewhere and not on the Arts Council's grand piano, which had no fault at all to suffer the Nazi onslaught. It survived all right, but nonetheless, an expert is coming from Germany (of all places) to restore, tune and refurbish it.

Whatever, "The Anthology" was a stirring reminder of a dark page in humanity's history, one that should never happen again. But then, there are little Holocausts happening all over the world, and one just has to tune in to the news any moment of the day to be informed.

After the performance there was a dinner at the Casino Español for Ambassador and Mme. Sagi, as well as the artists, planned to the minutest detail by the event's chair, Arts Council vice president Dr. **Vivina Chiu Yrastorza**. She is also the president of the Philippine-Israel Business Association (Cebu chapter).

Next morning Ambassador Sagi presided over a press conference at the Marriott Hotel. In attendance were mostly business writers from the three Cebu dailies. He said there is a large number of Filipinos working in Israel. Also, many Filipinos visit Jerusalem and other cities of the Holy Land.

The ambassador said they are looking into a better way to bring these tourists from Manila to Tel Aviv. By June there should be improved connections from Manila to Hong Kong and Bangkok, and onward to Israel. Cebu also has daily flights to HK.

Return engagement

The third event was the return engagement of Switzerland's Trio La Tache. Special thanks for bringing them are due the Swiss Embassy and the Union Bank of Switzerland (UBS), whose top man in Hong Kong, **Martin Kleager**, flew in just for the occasion.

Comprising the trio are **Hansjorg Koch** (piano), **Urs Brugger** (clarinet) and **Curdin Coray** (cello). Their repertoire was stunningly beautiful, starting with **Glinka's** "Trio Pathetique" for clarinet, cello and piano. Then came one similar composition by **Richard Flury**, and to end the first part: "Three Easy Pieces" by **Stravinsky** only for the piano and clarinet.

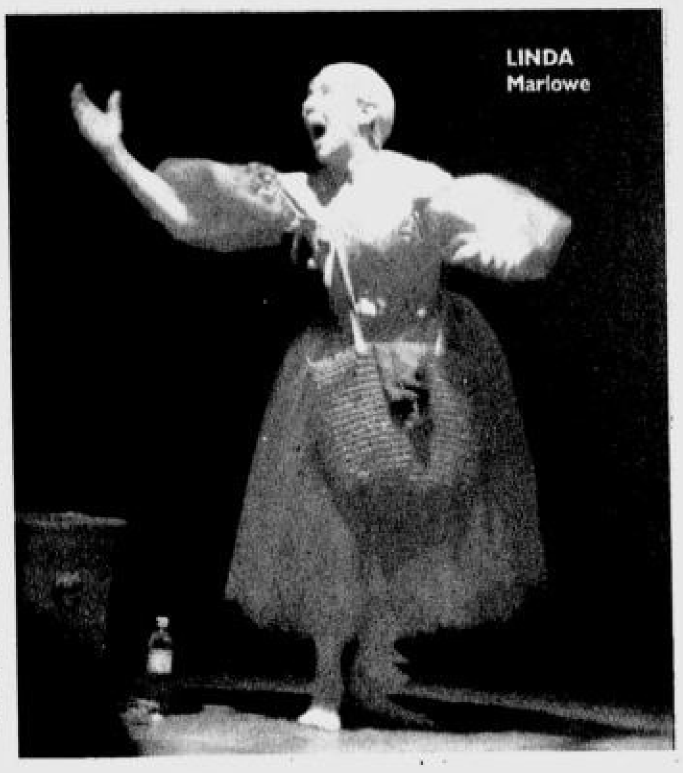
The cello and piano movement from **Oliver Messiaen's** "Quartet for the End of Time" opened Part II, and right after came the concert's highlight—the "Gassenhauer Trio" by Beethoven.

Vivina, along with **Chinggay Utzurrum**, were in charge of this event, and they would like to thank Casino Español president **Roberto Aboitiz** for sponsoring the after-the-show gourmet dinner at the club's formal dining salon. Toasts were made a third time around for Trio La Tache.

Council election

The season ended, it was time for elections of the Arts Council trustees. There are 15 whose terms last two years. In alternate years, eight or seven, as the case may be, are chosen. Elected this year have been **Lydia Alfonso, Tetta Ba-ad**, incumbent president Petite Garcia, **Mariter Klepp, Alice Plaza, Dominique Reigel** and **Elena Young**.

The eight others are **Vivina Yrastorza, Maxwell Espina, Marissa Fernan, Elvira Lu Ym, Teresing Mendezona, Mayen Tan, Lot-Lot Neri** and **Sonia Yuvallos**. Their first joint meeting will be this May.



LINDA Marlowe

MONI Yosef and Arts Council president Petite Garcia

SMADAR Yaaron and Mme. Hannah Sagi

i'm lovin' it
chicken
happy meal™

On Mother's Day, treat Mom to a place that brings her a lot of happy memories.

From May 6-15, just add P20 to every McDonald's Happy Meal food purchase and capture that special Mommy-moment at McDonald's with a souvenir photo taken by a Canon Digital Camera and printed instantly with a Canon Selphy Digital Photo Developer. Printout can be claimed in the Canon booth at participating McDonald's stores.

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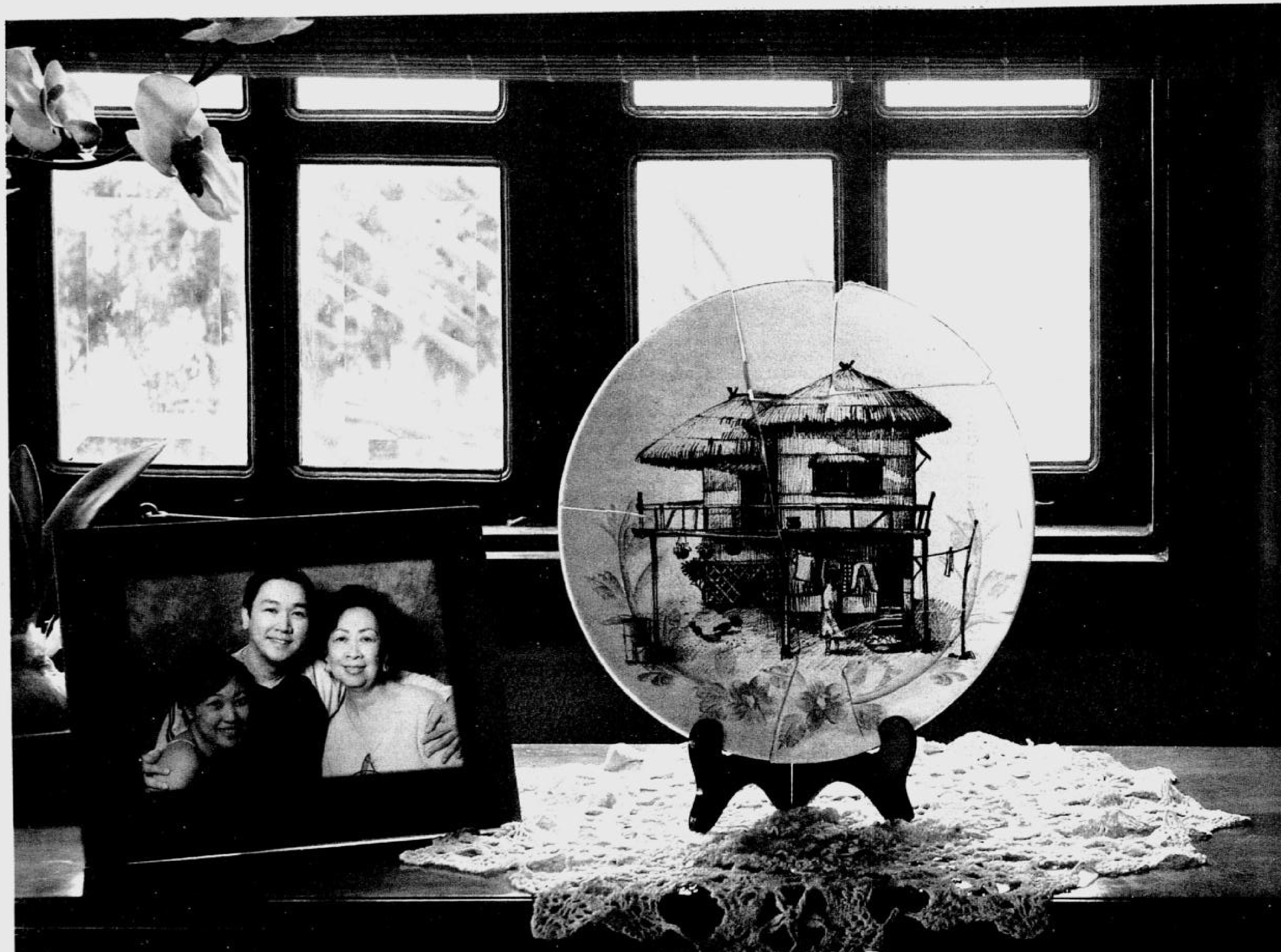

The day before you left for New York, Kuya and I were playing ball in the house.

It happened so fast. The pass I gave Kuya was so strong, the ball bounced off his hands and found its way to the living room mantle. Time seemed to stop as your favorite plate fell to the floor.

Tears flowed down my cheeks as you walked in the room.

I closed my eyes expecting you to shout in anger. Instead, I slowly felt the warmth of your embrace.

I've kept that plate ever since. Every time I see it and every time I call you on my Globe, I'm reminded that someday I'll feel your arms around me once more.

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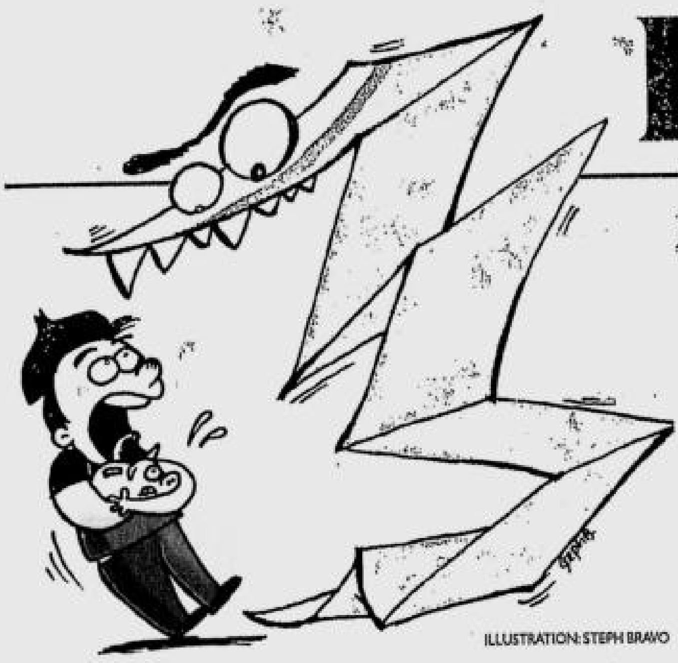


ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

Renewable energy may be right at our doorstep

SEEING GREEN

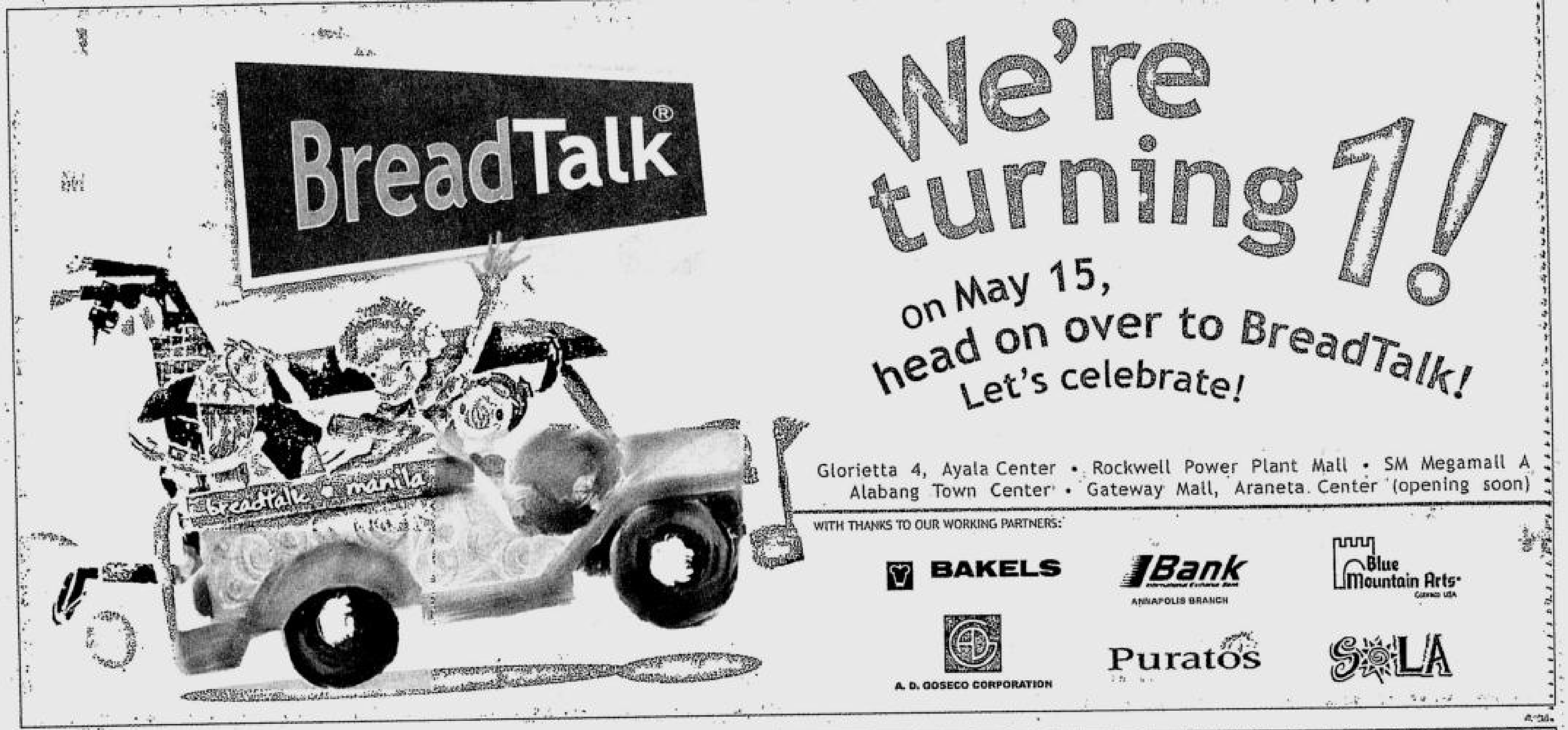
Doris Gaskell Nuyda

THE EVER-RISING prices of fossil fuel and the decreasing supply of that energy source, as well as the implication of these on industries and households, have made people look around for alternatives.

Fortunately, alternatives are available here—safe, renewable and abundant. Some of them, it might even be said, can be found right at our door.

These renewable energy (RE) sources are geothermal, hydro power, solar, wind and biomass. While some RE companies have already started operations, there is need for government to support RE efforts and look deeper into how they can be made to benefit

RENEWABLE/ H2



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Renewable energy may be right . . .

From page H1

the greater number of people.

There is the perception, you see, that fossil or conventional fuel is the preferred energy source, despite the problems associated with it.

In order to better inform people about the advantages of RE, a Renewable Energy Coalition was formed among the facilities offering the resource. Then a familiarization tour, a first, was organized by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), an international organization focusing on environmental concerns like conservation and species preservation.

Three of five facilities were visited during this first tour, selected mainly because of their proximity to Metro Manila (the others were omitted because of time constraints). Those that welcomed the tour group were Sun Power Solar Water Fabrication Plant in Sta. Rosa, Laguna; Mak-Ban Geothermal Plant in Bay, Laguna; and the Micro Hydro Electric Plants in Villa Escudero in Tiaong, Quezon.

In the group were members of Congress, particularly those in the Energy Committee (to aid them in legislation), representatives of government offices (like the Departments of Energy and Finance), clients of the facilities (like the Philippine National Oil Company), environmentalists and some members of media.

Spokespersons were on hand to explain their plant's operations and the benefits their systems offered.

Solar energy

At Solar Power, Greg Reichow, managing director, underscored the natural sunny clime of this tropical country. The sun, he said, could be counted on to be available for the greater part of the day. As solar energy could be stored, constant supply was assured even at night and during times when sunlight was weak.

He said the earth received in one hour the total power it used in one year. Solar energy was clean and the sun generated power where it was consumed, thus reducing losses in transmission.

Solar power also allowed electrification of otherwise inaccessible areas. The Eternal Flame memorial in Corregidor, he said, which could not be lit because of erratic power supply, was lit by solar energy.

Geothermal

The geothermal company Unocal, which operates Mak-Ban, has made the Philippines the Number One geothermal user in the world, followed by Nicaragua and El Salvador. In last year's power generation mix (geothermal, hydro power, solar, coal, oil, natural gas), geothermal accounted for 18.4 percent, the third biggest power provider after non-RE coal (28.9 percent) and natural gas (22.6 percent).

Mak-Ban is one of seven geothermal facilities in the country and one of three operated by Unocal. Wilson Clemente, Unocal's manager of Asset Affairs, explained that current efforts included well-drilling, well workover and injection capacity improvements.

As geothermal pipes were installed over wide areas, sometimes through a whole town, the company looked after its corporate social responsibilities as well.

Unocal also believes that to truly serve the community as a source of renewable, safe energy, it must be allowed to play on a level field with imported fuels. So it is advocating the passage of the Renewable Energy Bill in Congress.

Hydro power

The Micro Hydro Power Plants at Villa Escudero in Quezon, is, as its name suggests, three small plants located in separate areas of the Escudero estate. The plants, of which we were able to visit two, are located right at the sites of their sources of power and operate on what is called run-of-the-river power provided by the Bulasin and Labasin rivers that flow into the Escudero estate.

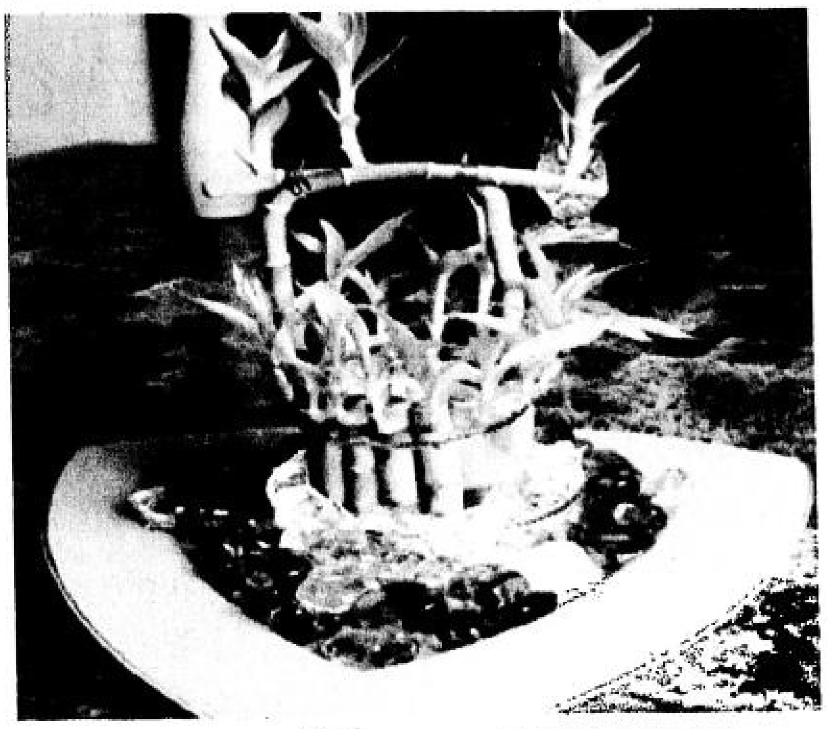
Their turbines generate 75, 72.4 and 37 kilowatts, respectively. While the hydro power plants serve only the Escudero estate (which maintains several tourist attractions, as well as restaurants and lodging facilities), they show how individual owners can make use of what nature has provided—in this case, small cascading rivers with strong RE.

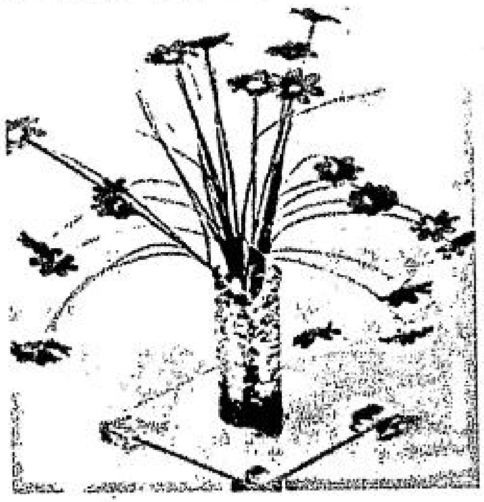
Though this option may not be available to others, it opens up possibilities for creative use of what could be right at our door.

The two other energy sources—wind power and biomass—need to be visited another day as more time is needed to gain access to them. Their advantage is that they are renewable and are always around.

It rests on government to pave the way to make them available to the public. And so we learn and wait. Hopefully, not for too long.

E-mail writer at dorisnuyda@yahoo.com





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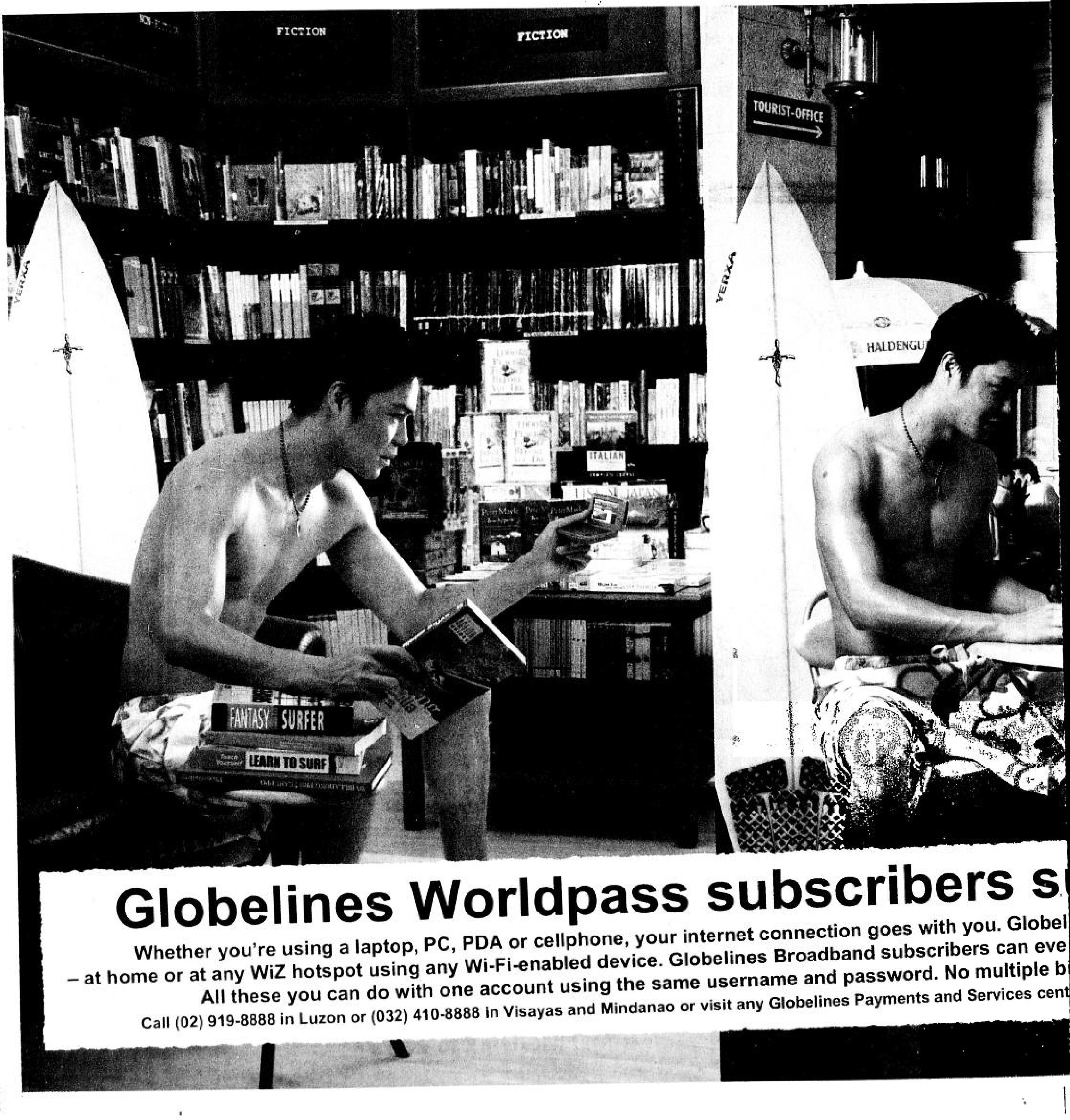

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Garden show opens May 10

THE HOME and Garden Show will be held 9 a.m.-5 p.m., May 10-20, The Edge Show Room, ground floor, One McKinley Place, Bonifacio Global City. Admission is free.

The show is presented by the Philippine Properties Inc., in cooperation with the Flower Club Philippines (FCP) and Mett's Plant Arts.

At 6:30 p.m., May 10, Julius Villamante and Ron de Juan will demonstrate freestyle floral arrangements.

Ikebana professor and plant art expert Serapion S. Metilla will demonstrate on May 14 how to make mini waterfall zen garden and tray landscape and the use of plants indoors and their care and maintenance.

Also demonstrating floral arrangements 1-6 p.m. are Dhory Alvendia, Egay Littawa, Ron de Juan, Julius Villamante, Miles Hilario, Ella Enriquez, Jaime Santiago, Bombeth Robles, Rey Ornas, Joyce Aguilar, Anne dela Cruz, Roma Rivera, Luz and Glenda Leyco and Teddy Manuel of FCP. Alex Pano is moderator.

Mini landscape exhibits will be done by architect Carl Maranon and Berme Maranon. Belen Lubay will showcase cutflowers and foliage. Call 8181723.

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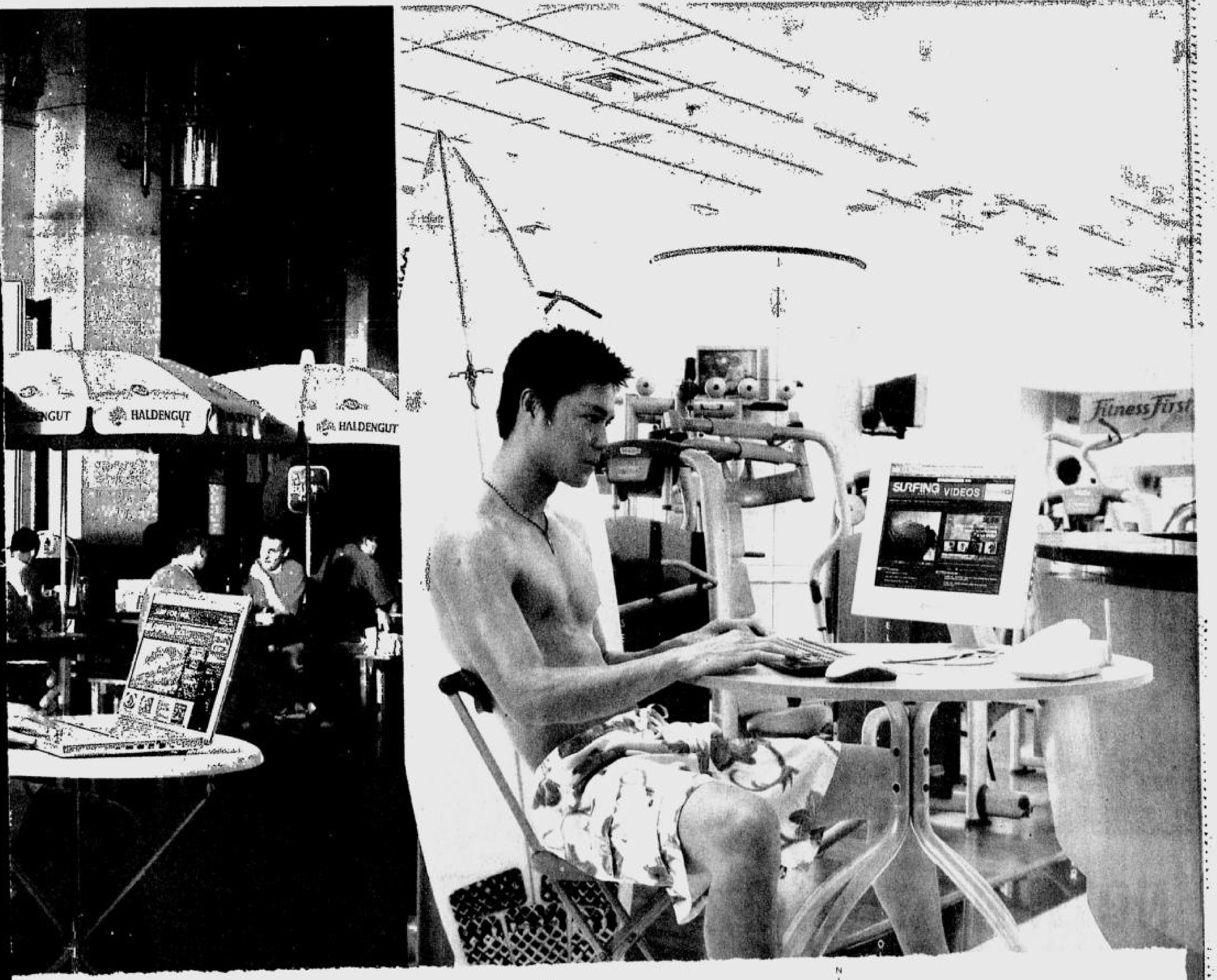

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Winning the battle against insomnia

By Nenet Galang-Perena
Contributor

VILMA Santos is not only mother to VJ Luis Manzano and the legendary dramatic icon of Philippine entertainment, but also the legendary insomniac. The tales of her notorious sleeping pattern has become showbiz saga.

But ordinary people from all walks of life are afflicted with the same bizarre problem. People who are trying to cope with life's vicissitudes, like the character portrayed by Al Pacino in the film "Insomnia." Our harried schedules and stressful work environment make us burn both ends of our candle with one inevitable outcome: sleep deprivation.

Research has proven that depriving the body of sleep may result to life-threatening diseases like coronary heart disease, cause erectile dysfunction and hormonal imbalance, disrupt metabolism, impair mental performance and adversely affect mental and psychological states.

If our body only gets an average of less than five hours of sleep at night, our chance of suffering a heart attack or dying from one nearly doubles compared to when we have a complete, rejuvenating sleep.

Sleep deprivation also seriously sabotages our body's metabolism, undermining our ability to burn fat. Fat cells in our body produce a hormone called leptin, which tells the body how much potential energy it has stored. Since leptin production peaks at night while sleeping, sleep deprivation can throw levels of this hormone sky high. Our body then loses track of how much energy it has reserved, and instead of burning fat, stores it.

A man's testosterone (male sex hormone) levels crash when his body is sleep-deprived, which triggers a drop in men's desire for sex and also inhibits his ability to maintain an erection.

Sexual hormone imbalance such as Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia (BPH or prostate enlargement in men) and menstrual disorder in women are also effects of sleeping problems.

Ailment

The National Sleep Foundation of the United States reports that sleep deprivation impairs mental performance almost as much as being drunk with alcohol. It can also alter our degree of concentration, alertness and speed of reflexes.

For people who work too hard, chronically stressed and anxious, insomnia has intense complications. Studies show that humans deprived of Rapid Eye Movement (REM) begin to have vivid dreams during their non-REM phases, and even hallucinations.

The Chinese, who since ancient times have relied on their traditional medicines, came up with the panacea for insomnia—the leizenzi mushroom (Xylaria Nigripes). This mushroom has been studied worldwide in the field of pharmacology because of its extensive medicinal and pharmaceutical uses. Very rare, this mushroom can only be found in Sichuan, Yunnan and Guandong in China.

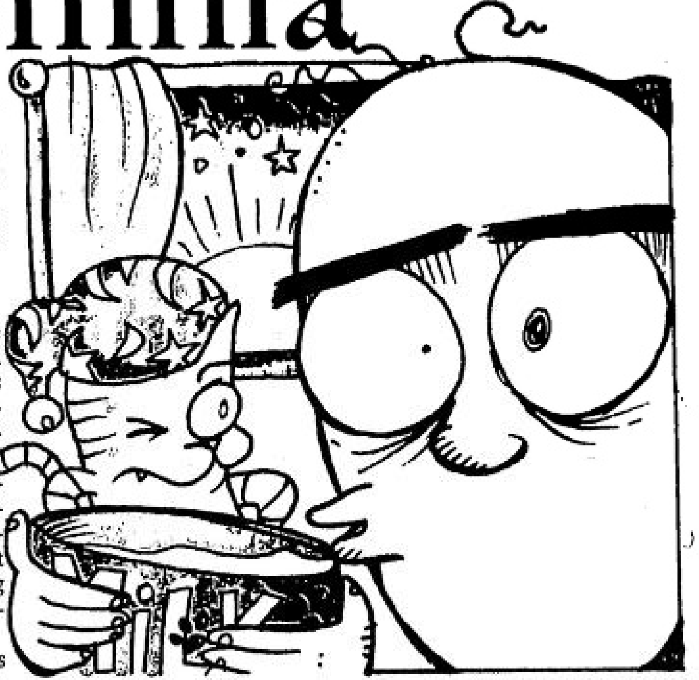


ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

In February of 1984, Prof. Wu Jialin reported his account of the growth and pharmacological effects of the mushroom in his thesis published at the Journal of Chendu Traditional Chinese Hospital. In Chinese Material Medica of Sichuan Province (1971) and Specifications of TCM Material of Sichuan Province (1987), both edited by the Sichuan Health Administration, it is stated:

"Leizenzi is mild in nature and sweet in spleen, which is effective for the treatment of postpartum hemorrhage and post operative bleeding. And because of its tranquilizing and sedative function, it is good for the treatment of palpitation and insomnia."

At present, the leizenzi capsule is widely used in Europe, Japan and China as natural remedy for insomnia and sleeping disorders, prostate enlargement and menstrual disorder (including menopausal syndrome).

In the Philippines, Better Herbs Inc. has made the leizenzi mushroom available through Better Sleep dietary supplement. Now known as Better Herbs Leizenzi, it is taken as a health supplement three times a day by people who are aware that sleep deprivation is extremely hazardous to the health.

Quality sleep

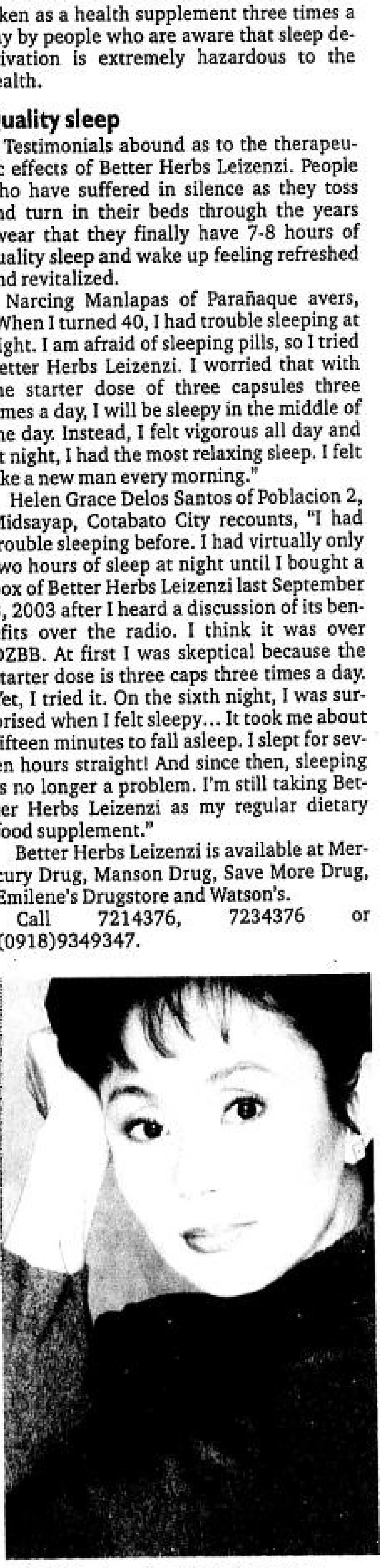
Testimonials abound as to the therapeutic effects of Better Herbs Leizenzi. People who have suffered in silence as they toss and turn in their beds through the years swear that they finally have 7-8 hours of quality sleep and wake up feeling refreshed and revitalized.

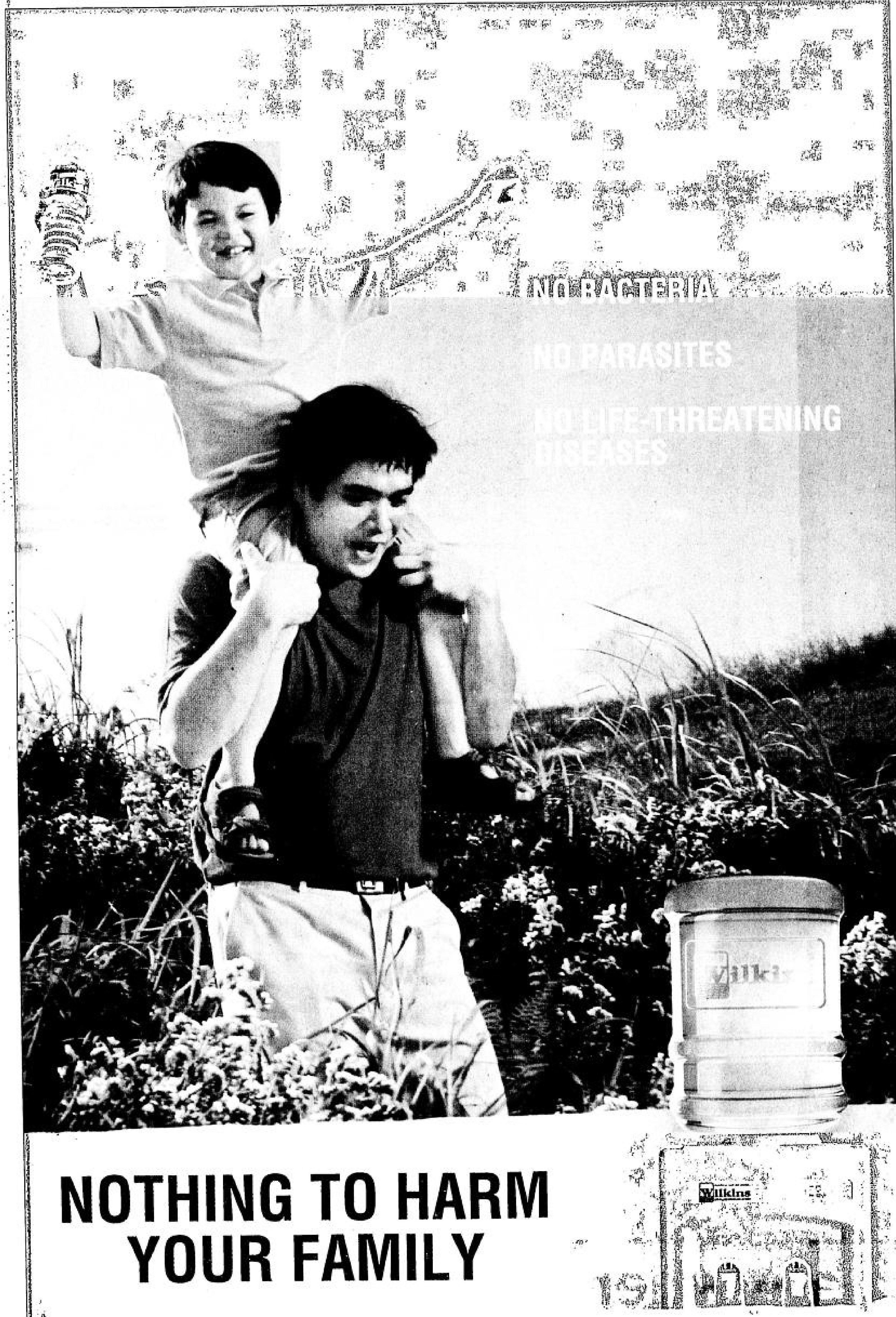
Narcing Manlapas of Parañaque avers, "When I turned 40, I had trouble sleeping at night. I am afraid of sleeping pills, so I tried Better Herbs Leizenzi. I worried that with the starter dose of three capsules three times a day, I will be sleepy in the middle of the day. Instead, I felt vigorous all day and at night, I had the most relaxing sleep. I felt like a new man every morning."

Helen Grace Delos Santos of Poblacion 2, Midsayap, Cotabato City recounts, "I had trouble sleeping before. I had virtually only two hours of sleep at night until I bought a box of Better Herbs Leizenzi last September 3, 2003 after I heard a discussion of its benefits over the radio. I think it was over DZBB. At first I was skeptical because the starter dose is three caps three times a day. Yet, I tried it. On the sixth night, I was surprised when I felt sleepy… It took me about fifteen minutes to fall asleep. I slept for seven hours straight! And since then, sleeping is no longer a problem. I'm still taking Better Herbs Leizenzi as my regular dietary food supplement."

Better Herbs Leizenzi is available at Mercury Drug, Manson Drug, Save More Drug, Emilene's Drugstore and Watson's.

Call 7214376, 7234376 or (0918)9349347.


VILMA Santos, a legendary insomniac



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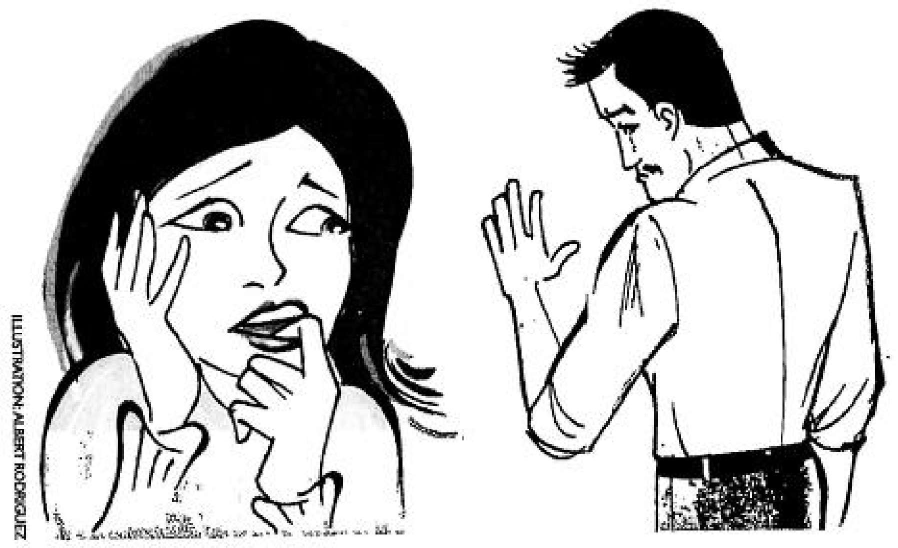


ILLUSTRATION: ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Will loving him less save the marriage?

EMILY'S POST

Emily A. Marcel

DEAR Emily,

I am being tortured in my marriage. How can I teach myself to be less insecure about my husband and how can I love him less so I can save our marriage? I love him so much that I'm afraid I'm suffocating him. We've been married almost six years now and have two girls, aged 5 and 2.

We never really had a "normal" courtship. I fell in love with him and when he found out how I felt, he convinced himself I was not such a bad catch after all, and we got married.

A couple of months after the wedding, we went abroad and stayed there for five years. We went to the Middle East where men and women seldom interacted. I never knew I had a jealous streak because there was no reason to be jealous in that place.

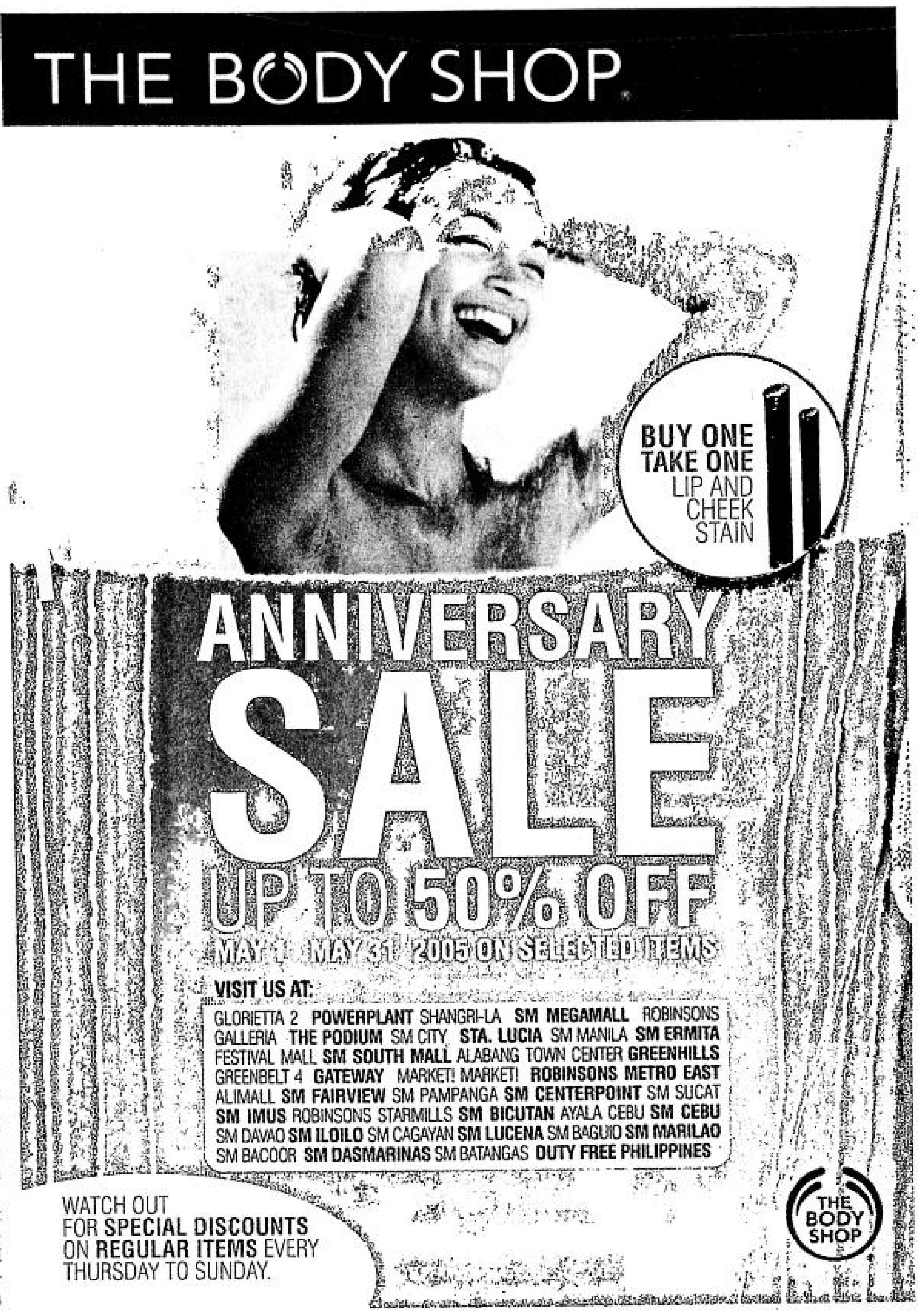
Last year, we came home for good and that's when my problems started.

My husband is working in a private company, and is in an environment where women openly approach him. These women gave him a slight culture shock. He has a great body and looks good enough to be a model, my friends say. He is really quite attractive to women.

So far, he has been honest with me. He doesn't hide anything and tells me when women approach him and flirt with him in and out of the office. But every time I hear such stories, I start feeling anxious and afraid that some day he will fall in love with somebody else.

One night last week, as we talked about love, relationships and emotions, he casually said he had never been in love. I asked him, "Not even with me, being mar-

WILL LOVING/13



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THE BODY SHOP

Happy Mother's Day po.
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Four women share mothering skills

GLOBAL beauty company Avon joins the global celebration of Mother's Day by allowing a closer look at the successful techniques of some mothers.

ROWENA Pascual makes it a point to share her daughter Czarina's interests.

CATHY Guballa has a comfortable and easygoing relationship with daughter Pia.

MARICEL Laxa-Pangilinan and daughter Ella bond over things they both like doing.

Maricel Laxa-Pangilinan, who graces Avon's May 1-15 Mother's Day-theme brochure, is dubbed "mompreneur," expertly juggling her many roles as actress, businesswoman, columnist, women's and children's rights advocate, and mother to Ella, Donny, Hannah and Benjamin.

Maricel says it took three years before she had her first child. She and husband Anthony Pangilinan, while preparing for the birth, decided they would follow their own beliefs when it came to rearing their children.

Laxa believes in teaching her kids values and preparing them for the time when they become teenagers. The key, she says, is building a solid foundation when the children are still at an impressionable age.

Avon franchise dealer Rowena Pascual and her teenage daughter Czarina are more like siblings. Pascual says she makes it a point to share her children's interests. She considers it important to find time to bond with her kids and get to know them better.

She wants her children "... not to get married early and to finish their studies."

Daughter Czarina says she learned discipline from her mom.

Avon franchise dealer Rosalinda Yabut and her son Densel had to deal with the issue of her marrying again. Yabut's first husband died when Densel was just 6 years old. Her remarriage and having another child made her firstborn jealous.

But the relationship between mother and child proved strong enough to overcome the difficulty. Yabut says she realized she had to spend more time with her older son and show him her love.

Rosalinda and Densel are very good friends now. They share everything and he helps his mom during weekends. He loves his baby brother and never forgets to show his gratitude to his mom who has always been supportive.

Health Today editor in chief Cathy Guballa says effective parenting depends on knowing your child. She believes in having quality and quantity time with children especially during their young and formative years.

She says she is both a mother and a friend, especially to her daughter.

Pia, Guballa's daughter, says she has learned many things from her mother especially perseverance. Mother has also learned much from her daughter and her other children that helped make her a better mother. "Honest, open and true. That's how she [Pia] is. I'm so happy my kids speak their minds. They tell the truth. They don't mince their words. When they want to say something, they say it," Guballa says.

DENSEL thanks his mom Rosalinda Yabut for taking good care of him.

Favorite gimmick choices get awards

FAVORITE Cover Girl Tweetie de Leon-Gonzalez

M CAFÉ'S Martin Wisniewski

CINEMANILA'S Tikoy Aguiluz accepts the Favorite Filmfest plum.

NOKIA'S 24/7 Nocturnal Navigator held its inaugural Nokia 24/7 Nocturnal Awards at the plush Manila Polo Club in Forbes Park recently.

The event honored the winners of Nokia's SMS-based poll held from December 2004-February 2005, which had 14 categories ranging from best restaurants to restrooms, DJs and design.

The 24/7 readers voted for their 2004 favorites in the fields of dining, nightlife and entertainment by choosing M Café (Best Design), Prince of Jaipur (Best Service), Nuvo (Best Restroom), Zong (Favorite Restaurant), Café Havana (Favorite Bar), Dish (Favorite Live Music Venue), Subtext (Favorite Theater or Stage Event), CineManila (Favorite Film Festival), Sarah Brightman: Harem World Tour (Favorite Concert), Sound (Favorite Live Act), Manolet Dario (Favorite DJ), Tweetie de Leon-Gonzalez (Favorite 24/7 Cover Model), ABS-CBN Publishing's Metrowear (Event of the Year) and Uva's Chocnut Ice Cream (Favorite Dish).

A special Lifetime Achievement Award was also given to the late Zenaida "Bibot" Amador for her immeasurable contribution to Philippine theater.

Nokia, the event's main sponsor, also handed out a new Nokia 7260 mobile phone to Nokia Nocturnal Style Awardee De Leon-Gonzalez, who was one of the evening's stunning presentors along with fellow 24/7 cover girls Tessa Prieto-Valdes, Phoemela Baranda, Angel Jacob, Wilma Doesnt, Kelly Misa and Carol Garcia.

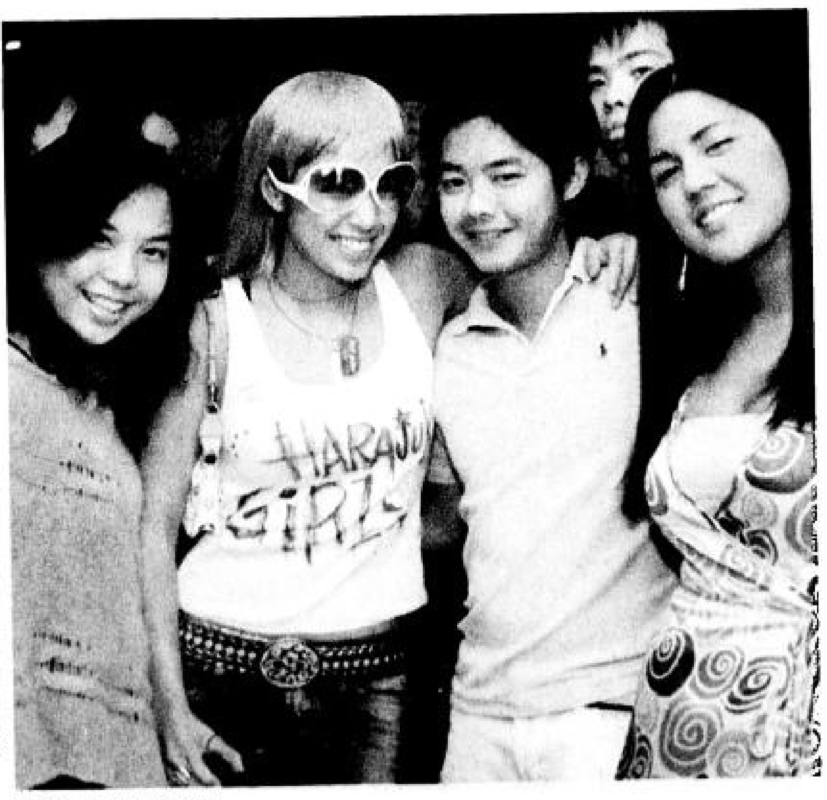
The winners and presentors all received gifts from L'Oreal, Shu Uemura, Maybelline and Lancôme. Live musical performances by popular new artists Drip and Live Act awardee Sound, as well as a surprise DJ performance by Favorite DJ awardee Manolet Dario, kept the crowd entertained throughout the night. They were backed by the sound and light system of Signum Events.

The ceremony was attended by Nokia executives led by Philippines country manager Parikshit Bhasin, marketing communications manager Pamela Galang and product Manager Luanne Erni. Attendees were treated to Jack Daniels, while Skyy Vodka and Amarula were provided by Premier Wine and Spirits.

JOSHUA Tiu of Zong, voted Favorite Restaurant, with Tessa Prieto Valdes

FAVORITE DJ Manolet Dario with presenter Phoemela Baranda

NUVO representative accepts the award for Best Restroom.



GP Reyes and friends

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Will loving him less save the marriage?

From page L1

ried six years with two kids?" He said yes. He said he loved me but not in the way a man passionately loved a woman.

I was crushed! He consoled me by saying even if he fell in love with another woman, he could never leave his family. He said he could control his emotions well. But, I thought, what if he experienced the joy and wonders of falling in love for the first time? Could he stay away from the woman he was head over heels in love with?

I am now constantly suspicious of him. He told me to love him less so I wouldn't easily get hurt, jealous and suspicious. He also told me to love him the way he loved me so I wouldn't expect too much from him. But, for me, it's either you love a person or you don't.

It's been two weeks since we had that conversation and I've had a heavy heart since. It's affecting my job and my marriage. I'm feeling very emotionally exhausted and, more importantly, I'm noticing that my husband is getting more and more disgusted and irritated with me.

Recently, his office asked him to choose from any of two projects abroad that would take two years to finish. In one country, he could bring us along, but not in the other. He chose to go alone.

Our religion allows divorce. I love my husband and my kids, and I don't want my marriage to end this way. But I am hurting so badly. Can both of us attain peace of mind if we completely cut off our ties and be free of each other?

HY

Are you sure your husband—who "looks great enough to be a model"—isn't just in love with himself? Men sometimes say the cruelest things to those they should be kind to!

But why are you thinking of divorce? Has he been mean to you? Is he flaunting his flirtations unashamedly? Have you two not made love in a long time, the reason you are so terribly insecure about him? Does he batter you emotionally?

And why are you so insecure? Are you terribly ugly that the thought of these women hovering around your husband is giving you the creeps?

You shouldn't! Your letter was well-written and showed an educated and thinking mind. You are just so wound-up and so stressed. Imagine holding a fistful of sand and squeezing hard. The harder you squeeze, the faster the sand slips through your fingers.

Scoop another fistful and let your hand remain open. The sand will remain still.

Moral of the story? The more you smother your husband with jealousy, the sooner you will lose him. And you wonder why your husband is getting irritated with you? Can you blame him if he cringes at the thought of going home to an angry, blindingly jealous and suspicious wife?

Unless there is already a third party involved, let your husband flirt till he grows feathers. Don't fence him in since that might make him clam up. A caged animal would rattle and rage to break free.

If you love him and truly want to keep him, show him your unquestioning support and affection. Provide a happy sanctuary in your home by ridding it of your jealousies and insecurities. Be his friend, even if it kills you. It seems like hard work but the benefits will be long-term, I assure you.

If acting "*deadma*" translates into more unhappiness for you, will the alternative of losing him for good make you happier?

Refocus your compulsive obsession with your husband on YOU. See how you can make YOU a better person. You already have the goods. Bring them out of the closets of your mind, polish them and put them to good use. This might infect your husband and make him notice YOU more.

E-mail the author at emarcelo@inquirer.com.ph, Subject: Lifestyle, or send your letters to INQUIRER. *Listen to Ms Marcelo co-host the program "Kalikasan Vigilante," 7:15-8:30 p.m., Monday to Friday on dwBR 104.3 FM.*

M.A.C
Meralco
Appliance Calculator

gives moms more control over electricity consumption

Ever wondered how much electricity your air conditioning unit consumes and how much it costs you for every hour that it keeps you cool in the hot summer months? Or how expensive it really is to cook with your microwave oven? These and other questions about electricity consumption of common household appliances need not be a mystery, especially to housewives who are in charge of family budgets.

The newly refurbished website of the Manila Electric Company (Meralco) has a special feature called the Meralco Appliance Calculator or MAC that can help budget-conscious housewives do just that – estimate the consumption of their appliances.

The Meralco website was recently enhanced to make it more responsive to consumer needs. "We want our website to be useful to as many of our customers as possible. Its features, specifically the MAC, were designed to empower consumers and help them better manage their electricity consumption," said Mr. Mike Lopez, head of Meralco's Marketing Department.

With the MAC, customers can estimate how much they would spend on electricity for the use of each of their major appliances like air conditioners, microwave ovens, flat irons and TVs. They can calculate the cost per month, week, day or even hour. Knowing the approximate cost of electricity by using certain appliances, customers are also able to budget their electricity consumption better.

If the MAC tells them, for instance, that they are spending only about P10 per hour on air conditioning, they can decide to extend the use for a few more hours each day to enjoy its convenience longer. On the other hand, if they find that they are spending too much in using certain appliances, they can lessen their consumption and plan how to maximize the use of these appliances.

The new Meralco website also gives customers easy access to billing information, consumption history, maintenance schedules and other electricity service concerns. It is also a rich source of news and information about Meralco and other relevant issues in the power industry.

"Being a 24-hour company, we make it a point to always be accessible to our customers. With the website, we could become within even closer reach of our customers," said Mr. Lopez.

To experience the full range of features of the new Meralco website, visit **www.meralco.com.ph**.

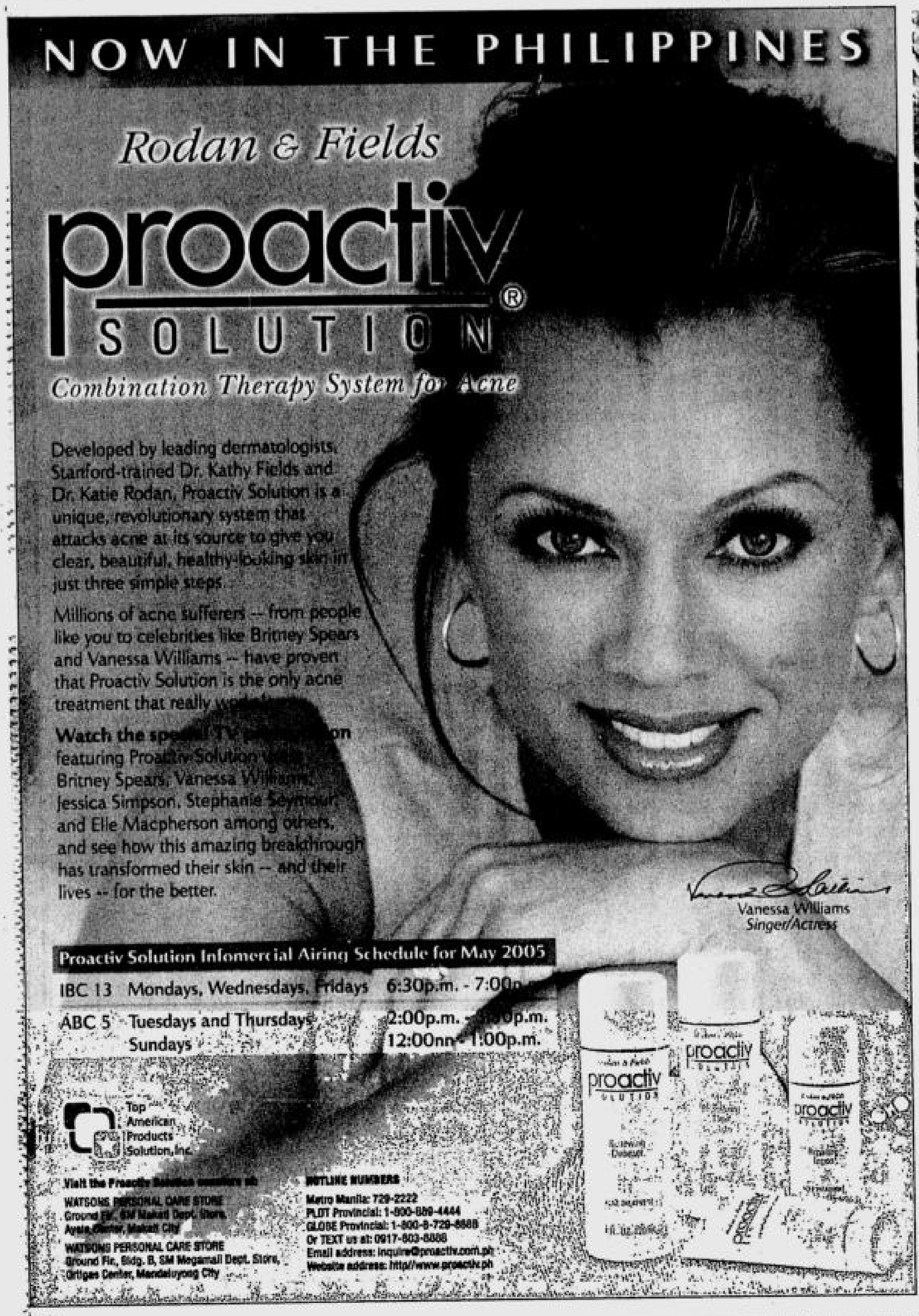
MERALCO

1. Place refrigerators at least 4 inches from the wall to give it enough room to breathe. Heat can cause the motor and the compressor to use more energy.
2. Switch off the electric stove during the last minutes of cooking. The remaining heat will allow the food to simmer.
3. Unplug all electrical appliances when not in use.
4. Clean bulbs regularly. Dirt lessens illumination by 50 percent.
5. Regularly clean the aircon filter and vacuum the outdoor coil to keep it working efficiently.
6. When using electric fans, lock the oscillator when the fan is needed in one direction only, thus, air is blown directly where needed.

Remember, appliances in good working order operate more efficiently.

The power
to save power.
All yours.

Meralco. The power to change power.
MERALCO



NOW IN THE PHILIPPINES

Rodan & Fields

proactiv® SOLUTION

Combination Therapy System for Acne

Developed by leading dermatologists, Stanford-trained Dr. Kathy Fields and Dr. Katie Rodan, Proactiv Solution is a unique, revolutionary system that attacks acne at its source to give you clear, beautiful, healthy-looking skin in just three simple steps.

Millions of acne sufferers -- from people like you to celebrities like Britney Spears and Vanessa Williams -- have proven that Proactiv Solution is the only acne treatment that really works.

Watch the special TV presentation featuring Proactiv Solution users Britney Spears, Vanessa Williams, Jessica Simpson, Stephanie Seymour, and Elle Macpherson among others, and see how this amazing breakthrough has transformed their skin -- and their lives -- for the better.

Vanessa Williams
Singer/Actress

Proactiv Solution Infomercial Airing Schedule for May 2005

IBC 13	Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays	6:30p.m. - 7:00p.m.
ABC 5	Tuesdays and Thursdays	2:00p.m. - 3:00p.m.
	Sundays	12:00nn - 1:00p.m.

Top American Products Solution, Inc.

Visit the Proactiv Solution counters at:

WATSONS PERSONAL CARE STORE
Ground Flr., SM Makati Dept. Store,
Ayala Center, Makati City

WATSONS PERSONAL CARE STORE
Ground Flr., Bldg. B, SM Megamall Dept. Store,
Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City

HOTLINE NUMBERS

Metro Manila: 729-2222
PLDT Provincial: 1-800-889-4444
GLOBE Provincial: 1-800-8-729-8888
Or TEXT us at: 0917-803-8888
Email address: inquire@proactiv.com.ph
Website address: http//www.proactiv.ph

PERSONALIZED flower or fruit arrangement at Handyman Do It Best Home Center, with a Mother's Day Special sale until May 26

Handy presents for Mom

HANDYMAN Do It Best Home Center has a Mother's Day Special until May 26. It offers inexpensive and alternative presents for mothers.

Easy-on-the-pocket gift items include Multi-layer organizers (P945), Turbo Vac (P1,795.50 with free hair straightener with every purchase).

Do-it-yourself moms or "handy-moms" will like the wooden shelf kits (P154), self-adhesive decorative vinyl (P108), cordless screwdriver set (P805.50), among others.

Hurry and bring mothers, wives, grandmothers, girlfriends, aunts, co-workers to any Handyman store nearest you.

Handyman Do It Best Home Center offers free workshops on "Safety Driving Skills" and "Basic Car Maintenance" (by Nissan), "How to Assemble a DVD rack" (by Black & Decker), "Basic Painting Application" (Boysen Decore) and "Paint Like a Pro!" (by Davies). For venues and schedules link up to www.handyman.com.ph.

Handyman Do It Best Home Center has outlets in all Robinsons malls, Festival Mall Alabang, all Waltermart branches, and other leading malls nationwide. Handyman Do It Centers are in Robinsons Place Novaliches and Pioneer.

STANLEY and Arlene Co love the cartoon-theme anti-slip doormats, area rugs and Looney Tunes and Disney-theme wall decor available at Handyman Do It Best Home Center.

Sale! Sale!

Time to *harvest* the best deals

May 13 & 14, 10am - 12mn
May 15, 10am - 9pm

KALAYAAN-BUENDIA FLY-OVER
KALAYAAN
KALAYAAN C-5 INTERSECTION
PRICE SMART
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
FROM PASIG
22ND STREET
EDSA
C-5
THE FORT
SHELL STATION
AYALA AVE.
26TH STREET
FROM SOUTH SUPER HIGHWAY

May 13	May 14
Lilo & Stitch Aloha Yo Event 4pm & 6pm Activity Center featuring Bea Binene, Chynna Ortaleza, Nadine Samonte, Dion Ignacio, Tyrone Perez & Paul Salas Plus the SOP boys - Macmac, Emil, Edward and Yexel	Mother's Day Affair by Good Housekeeping 10am to 9pm Activity Center

Open parking beside Fiesta Market and across Playzone.
New parking building along Metro Supermarket / Department Store

MARKET! MARKET!
Bonifacio Global City

The *fun* is in the finds

Developed and managed by Ayala Land, Inc. Another retail innovation.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A2-247, Series of 2005

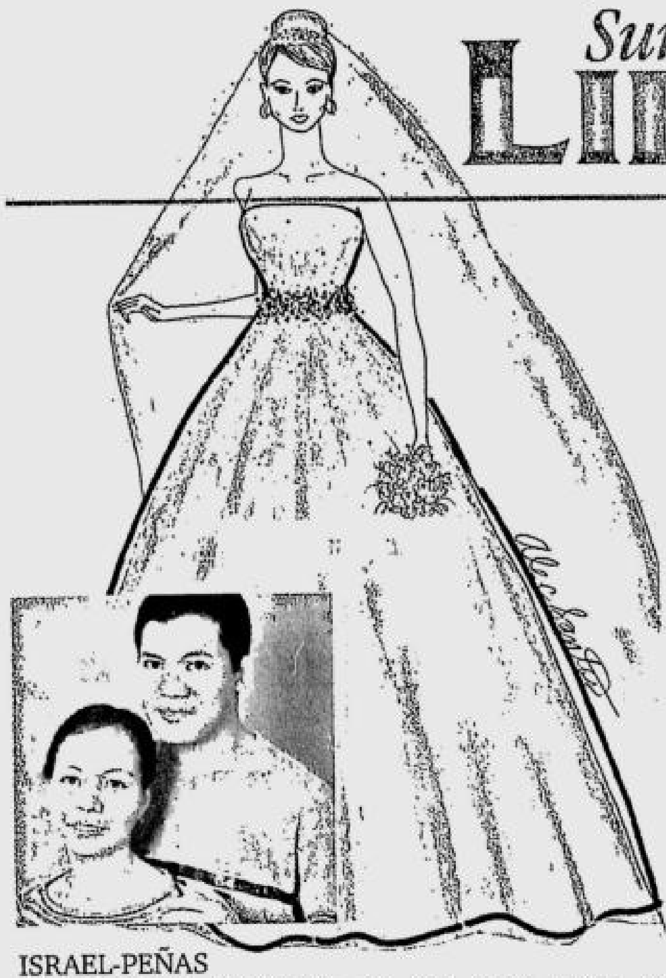
Sunday LIFESTYLE Weddings

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback:
Inquirer life name/age/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple to the Inquirer *office, or P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City, or e-mail lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.*



ISRAEL-PEÑAS

Anthony Israel, son of **Alfredo R. Israel** and the late **Elsie Monserate**, will marry **Anneli Peñas**, daughter of **Gina Chavez** and the late **Edilberto Peñas,** on May 14 at the Saints Philip and James the Apostles Church, Lagonoy, Camarines Sur.

Alec Santos designed and executed a strapless gown in off-white gazar with embellishment on the waist consisting of cut, bugle and crystal beads. The princess-cut skirt in semi-bouffant silhouette and in layers of organza, gazar, silk and tulle extends to a chapel train traced with seed pearls and caviar beads. Her soft double-width illusion tulle will be held in place by crystal pins.

Events Plus with Alec Santos as the overall coordinator will coordinate the event.

DUMLAO-SORIANO

Pennsylvania-based IT specialist **Rommel Dumlao**, son of professor **Dorotheo** and Dr. **Rufina Dumlao** of Malabon City, will wed bank systems analyst **Khey Soriano**, daughter of **Wilfredo** and **Nelia Soriano** of Las Piñas City, on May 14, at the Archdiocesan Shrine of Jesus, Central Business Park, Reclamation Area, Pasay City. Reception will follow at the Hyatt Recency Manila.

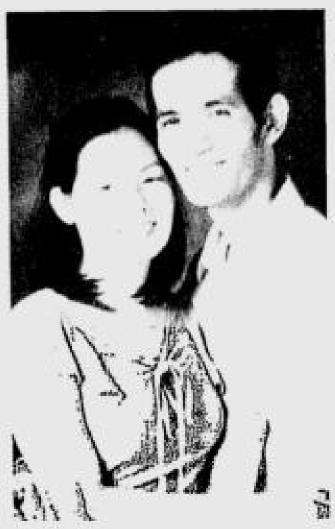
FERNANDEZ-SANDICO

Arnie Fernandez of the Philippine Military Academy, and son of Col. **Arnaldo Jr.** and **Eleanor Fernandez**, recently married **Marie Kiel Sandico**, daughter of **Francisco IV** and **Violeta Sandico**, at St. Michael Chapel, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig.

Reception followed at D'Anchors in San Joaquin, Pasig City.

MACARINE-MAMURIC

Lawyer **Ingemar Macarine**, son of City Prosecutor **Ignacio Macarine** and **Marilyn Macarine**, will marry **Raquel Mamuric**, daughter of **Amadeo** and **Consuelo Mamuric**, on May 24 at Caleruega Church in Nasugbu, Batangas. Reception will follow at Josephine's Restaurant in Tagaytay City.



CARPIO-MENDOZA

Manny Carpio, son of **Hermelina**, will exchange wedding vows with **Cathy Mendoza**, daughter of **Ronello** and **Nora Mendoza**, on May 18, at Iglesia ni Cristo, Tandang Sora, Caloocan. The officiating minister will be **Pedro Mendoza Jr.** Reception will follow at the Araneta Village Clubhouse.

The bride will wear an **Abel Jacinto** creation. **Don Paolo,** a digital and photo studio in Valenzuela City, will chronicle the wedding.

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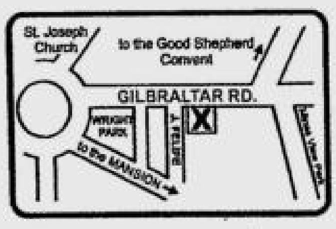
or a FREE SHIRT
ACCREDITED



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- ANDALUCIA, MANILA (near UST) 742-7292
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GRETSCH
- Gibraltar 6600PK hardware set
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- Free 1 night stay for 2 at Hotel Elizabeth Baguio
CA-S825/DW (all color) Reg. Price ~~P100,150.00~~ Sale Price P70,000

GRETSCH
- Gibraltar 5600PK hardware set
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Ovation PLUG IT IN
Reg. Price ~~P101,590.00~~
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Ovation PLUG IT IN
Reg. Price ~~P70,160.00~~
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- D'markley K20X gtr. amp.
- Free 1 night stay for 2 at Hotel Elizabeth Baguio
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Zildjian 20% to 25% less on all cymbals

Fernando® GUITAR PACKAGE ARE530
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HV-040-00 violin
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NEW
SELECTA
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INTENSE FLAVOR

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Check out these other cool Selecta Popsicle treats
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TWISTER only P15*
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Are you cool enough?
SELECTA Popsicle
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INQUIRER COMICS Sunday

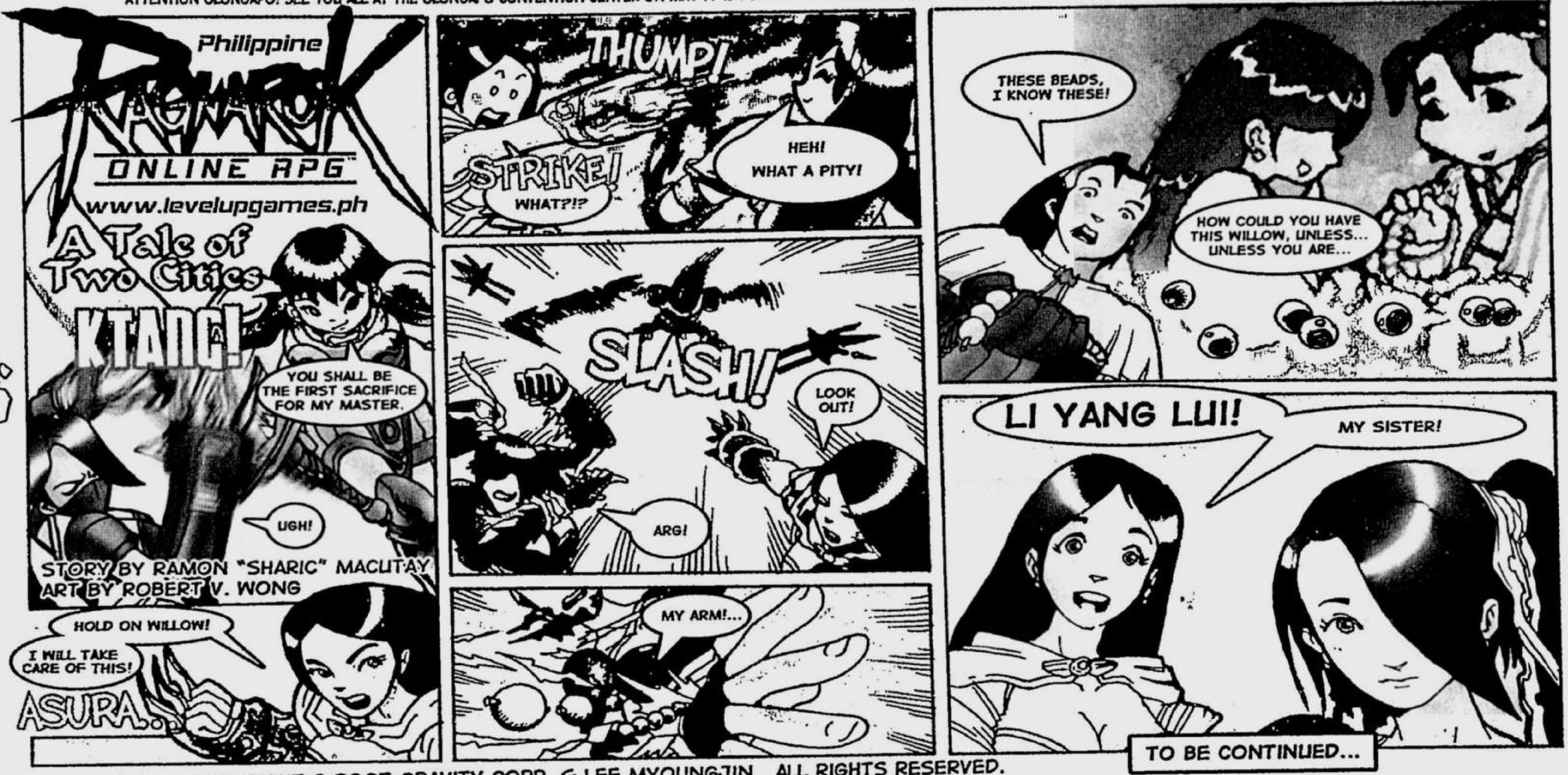
MAY 8, 2005

e-mail feedback: arts@inquirer.com.ph

RAGNAROK

BY ROBERT WONG

ATTENTION OLONGAPO! SEE YOU ALL AT THE OLONGAPO CONVENTION CENTER ON MAY 14-15 FOR THE LUZON LEG OF THE RAGNAROK PHILIPPINE CHAMPIONSHIPS 2005. VISIT WWW.LEVELUPGAMES.PH FOR MORE DETAILS


Philippine
RAGNAROK
ONLINE RPG
www.levelupgames.ph
A Tale of Two Cities
KTANG!
YOU SHALL BE THE FIRST SACRIFICE FOR MY MASTER.
UGH!
STORY BY RAMON "SHARIC" MACUTAY
ART BY ROBERT V. WONG
HOLD ON WILLOW!
I WILL TAKE CARE OF THIS!
ASURA...
THUMP!
STRIKE!
WHAT?!?
HEH! WHAT A PITY!
SLASH!
LOOK OUT!
ARG!
MY ARM!...
THESE BEADS, I KNOW THESE!
HOW COULD YOU HAVE THIS WILLOW, UNLESS... UNLESS YOU ARE...
LI YANG LUI!
MY SISTER!
TO BE CONTINUED...

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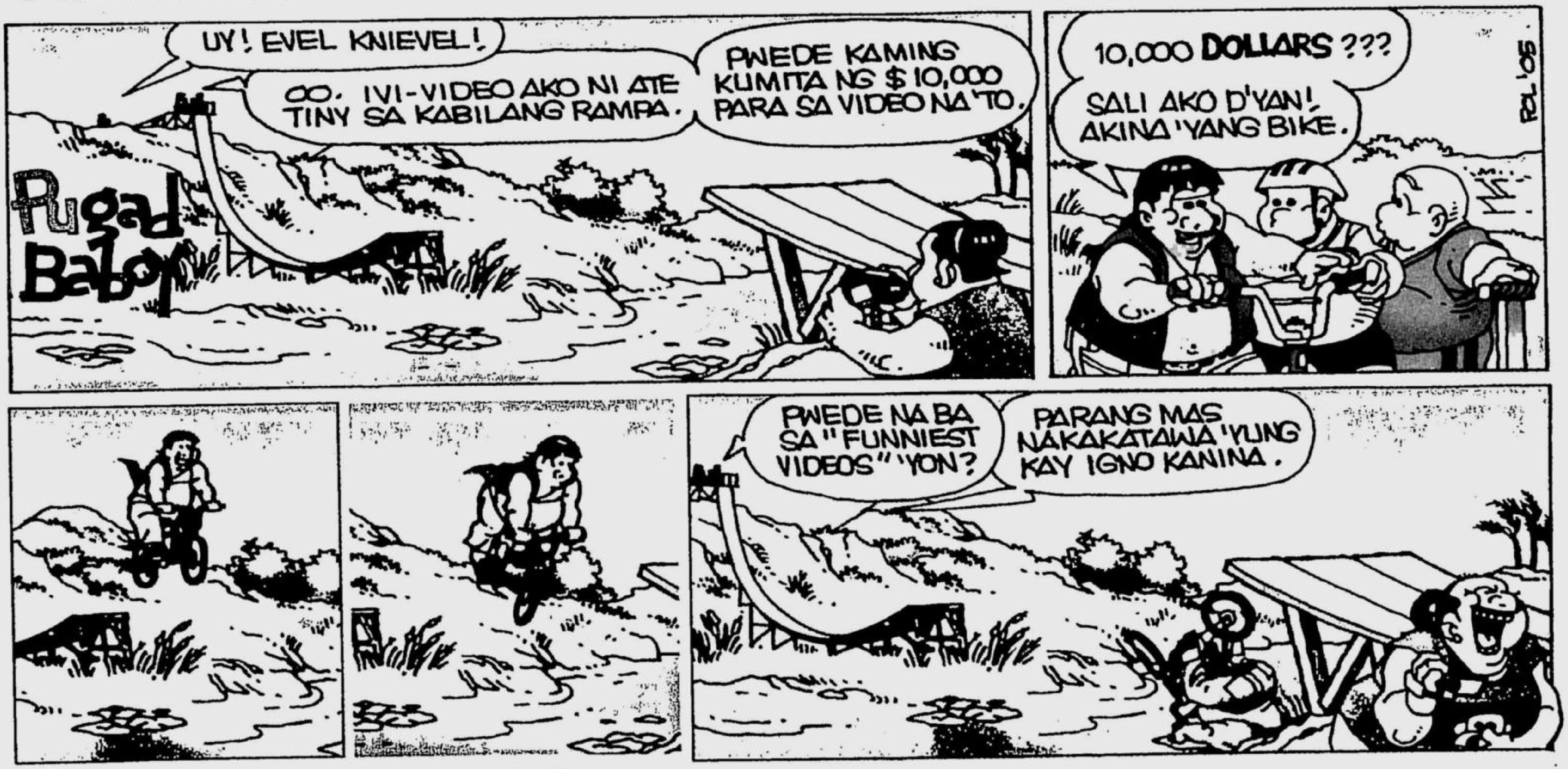
PUGAD BABOY

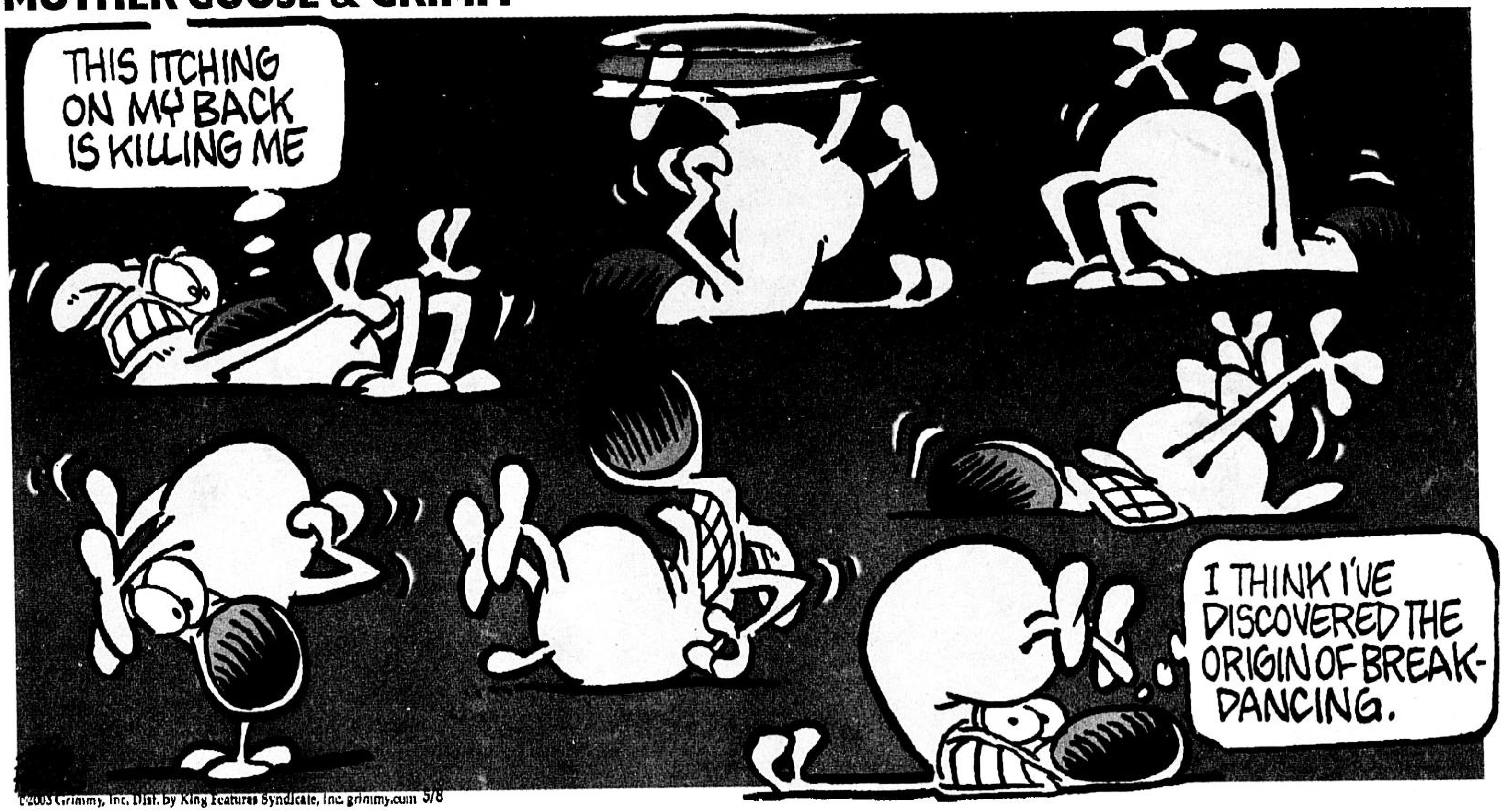
BY POL MEDINA JR.


UY! EVEL KNIEVEL!
OO. IVI-VIDEO AKO NI ATE TINY SA KABILANG RAMPA.
PWEDE KAMING KUMITA NG $ 10,000 PARA SA VIDEO NA 'TO.
Pugad Baboy
10,000 DOLLARS ???
SALI AKO D'YAN! AKINA 'YANG BIKE.
POL '05
PWEDE NA BA SA "FUNNIEST VIDEOS" 'YON?
PARANG MAS NAKAKATAWA 'YUNG KAY IGNO KANINA.

C. FOLLOW THE FOLD TO GET TO MIDGARD

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS


THIS ITCHING ON MY BACK IS KILLING ME
I THINK I'VE DISCOVERED THE ORIGIN OF BREAK-DANCING.

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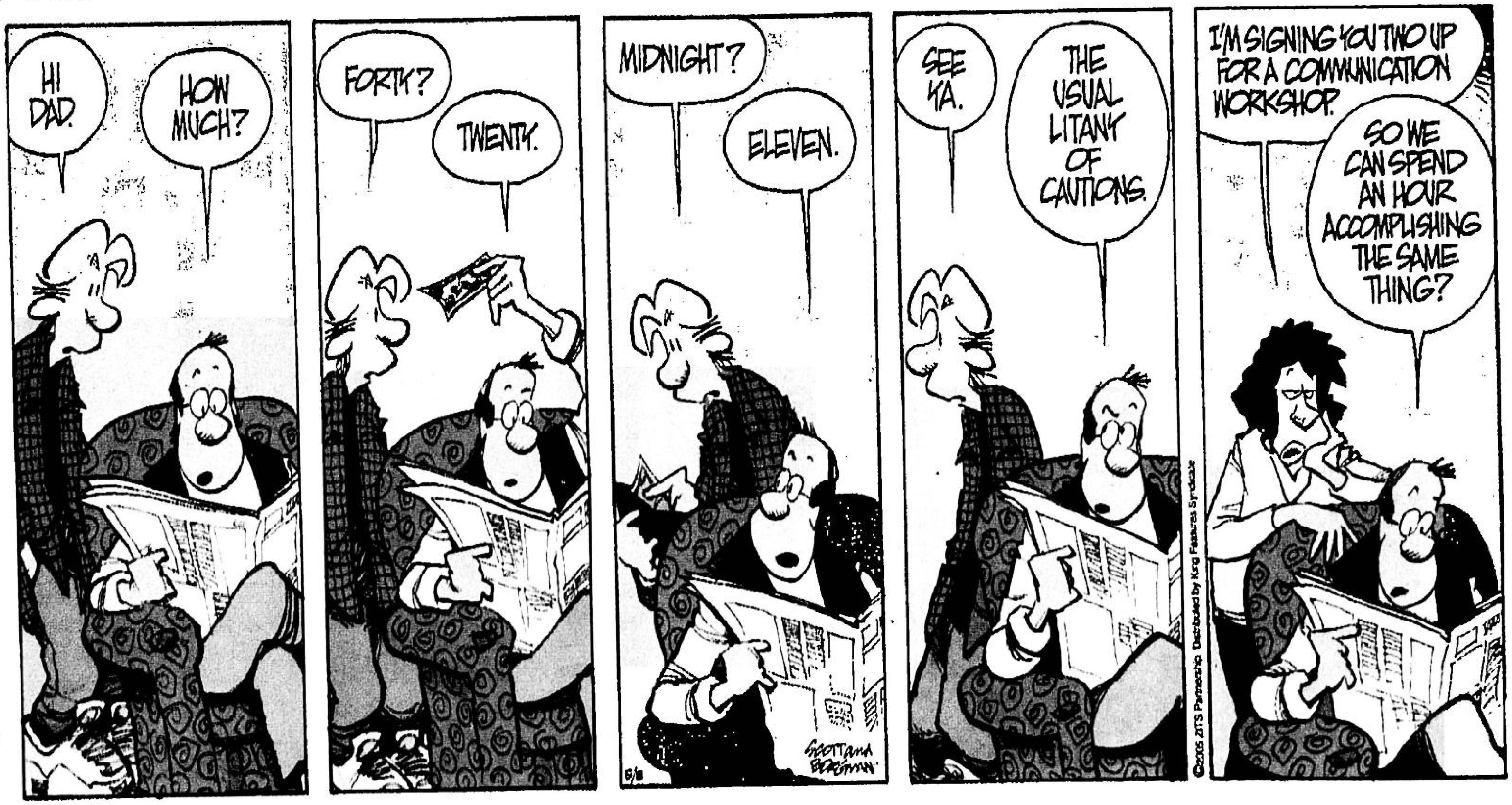
ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN


HI DAD.
HOW MUCH?
FORTY?
TWENTY.
MIDNIGHT?
ELEVEN.
SEE YA.
THE USUAL LITANY OF CAUTIONS.
I'M SIGNING YOU TWO UP FOR A COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP.
SO WE CAN SPEND AN HOUR ACCOMPLISHING THE SAME THING?
5/8
SCOTT AND BORGMAN

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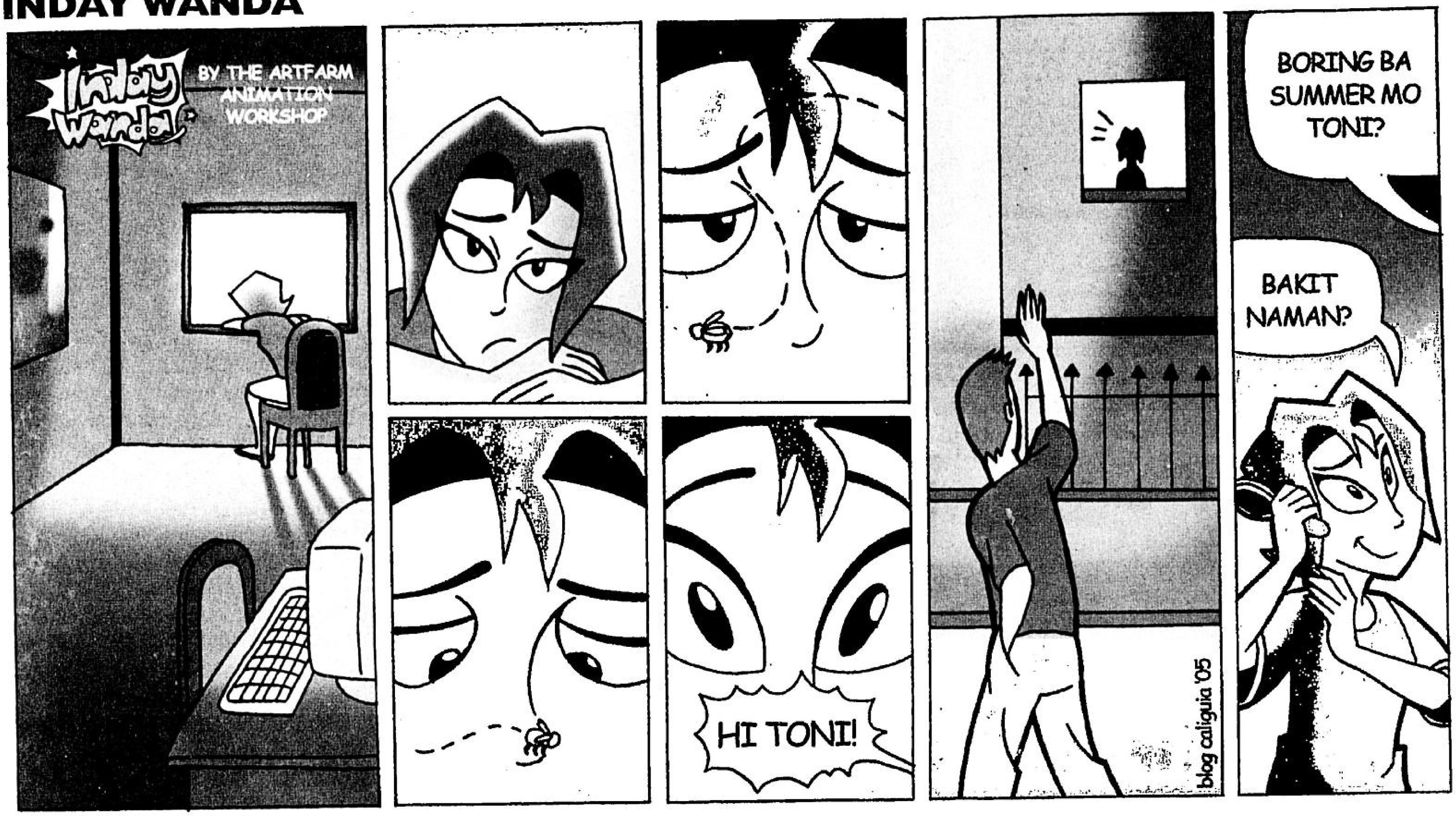
INDAY WANDA

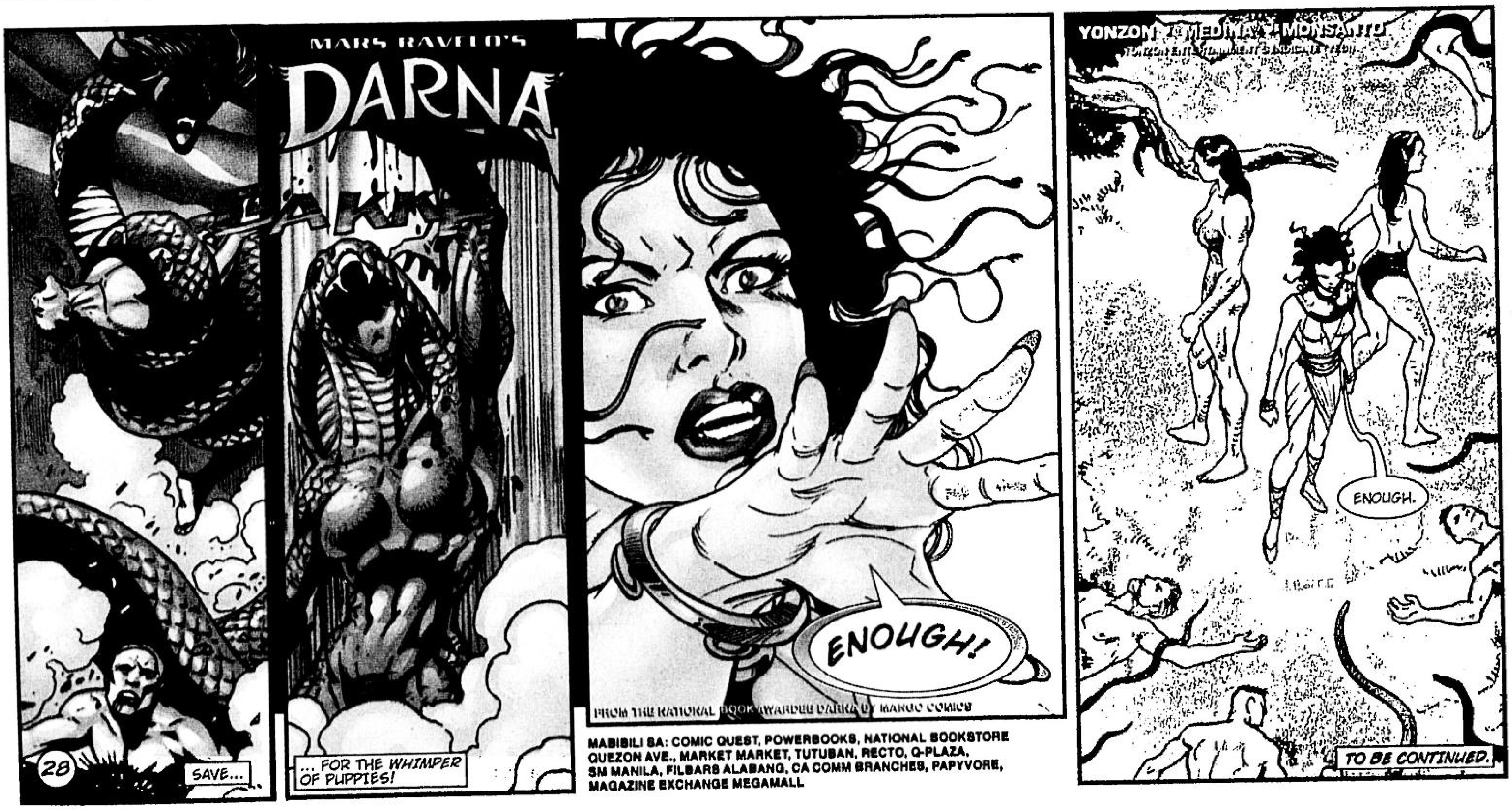
BY BLOG CALIGUIA


Inday Wanda
BY THE ARTFARM ANIMATION WORKSHOP
HI TONI!
blog caliguia '05
BORING BA SUMMER MO TONI?
BAKIT NAMAN?

A. FOLD OUT AT CENTER TO GET THE BIG PICTURE

DARNA

BY MANGO COMICS

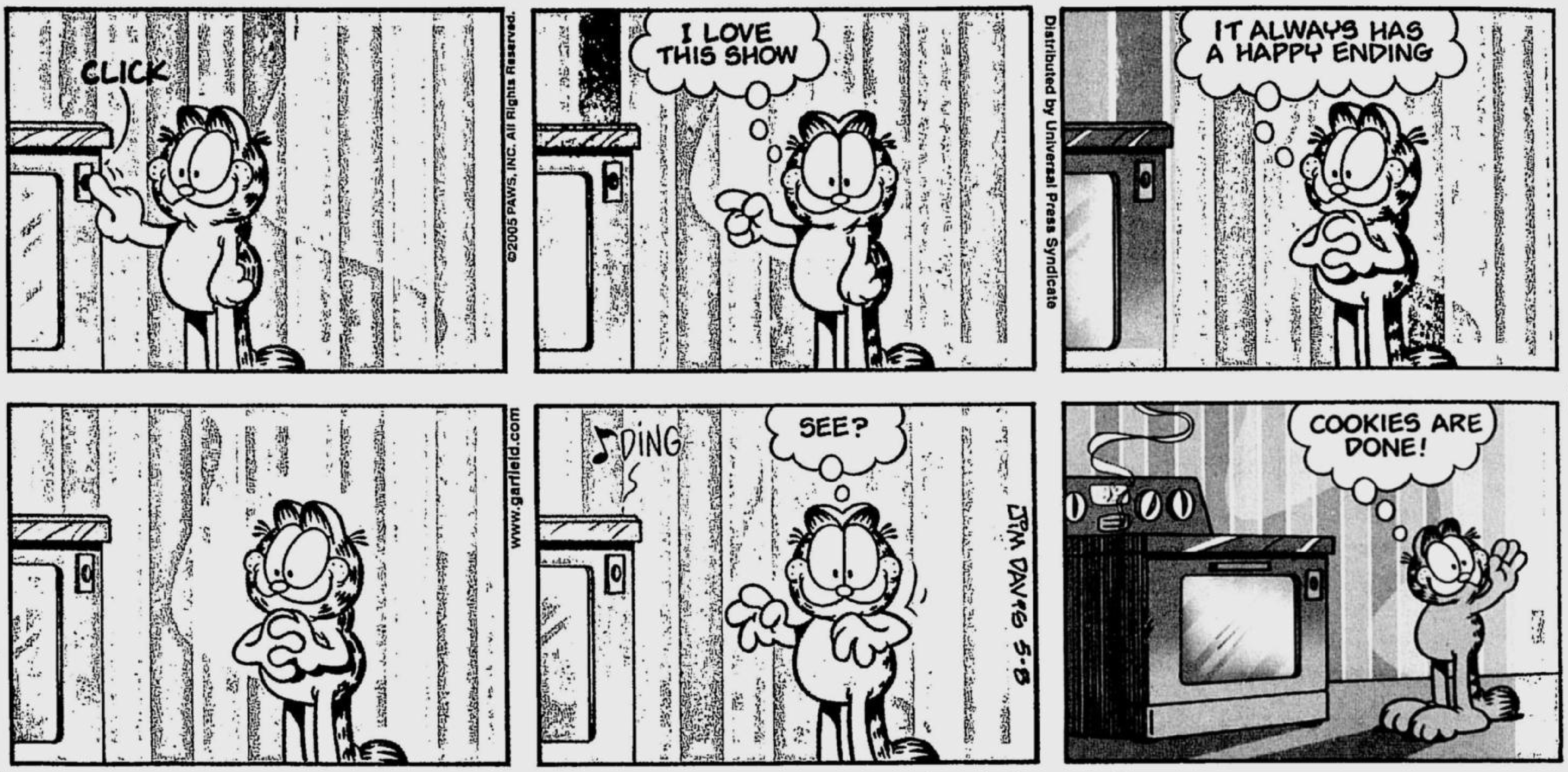

28
SAVE...
MARS RAVELO'S
DARNA
... FOR THE WHIMPER OF PUPPIES!
ENOUGH!
YONZON / MEDINA / MONSANTO
ENOUGH.
TO BE CONTINUED.

FROM THE NATIONAL BOOK AWARDEE DARNA BY MANGO COMICS

MABIBILI SA: COMIC QUEST, POWERBOOKS, NATIONAL BOOKSTORE QUEZON AVE., MARKET MARKET, TUTUBAN, RECTO, Q-PLAZA, SM MANILA, FILBARS ALABANG, CA COMM BRANCHES, PAPYVORE, MAGAZINE EXCHANGE MEGAMALL

GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS


CLICK
I LOVE THIS SHOW
IT ALWAYS HAS A HAPPY ENDING
DING
SEE?
COOKIES ARE DONE!
JIM DAVIS 5-8

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FULL HOUSE

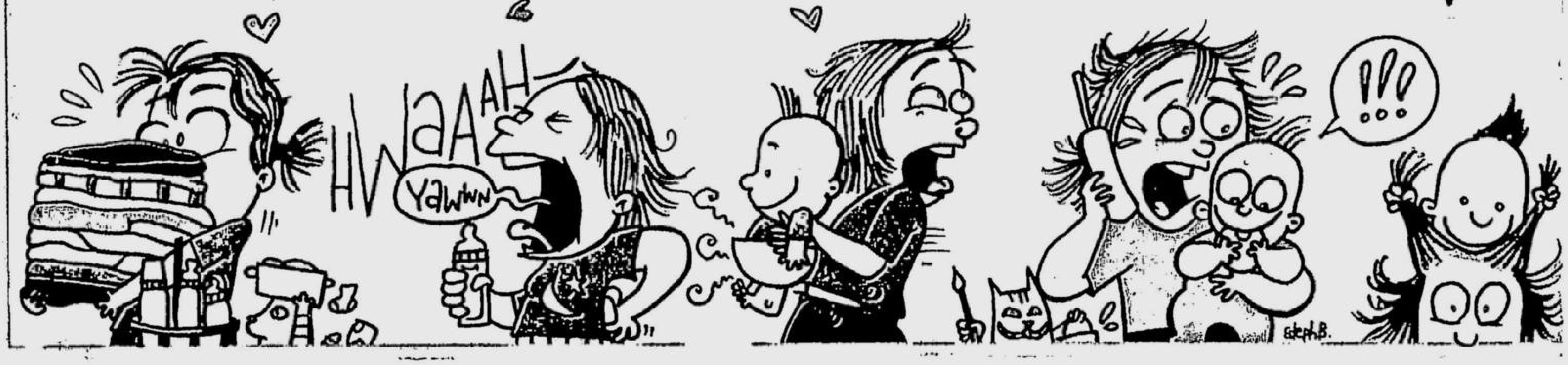
BY STEPH BRAVO

She watches over the ways of her household,
and does not eat the bread of idleness.
Her children rise up and call her blessed;
Her husband *also,* and he praises her :
" Many daughters have done well,
But you excel them all. "

Proverbs 31: 27-29

Happy Mother's Day !

Many thanks also to dear lolas who have more than their share of late nights and dirty diapers.


HWaaAAH
Yawwn
!!!
steph.B.

B. TURN THE PAGE TO GET IT RIGHT

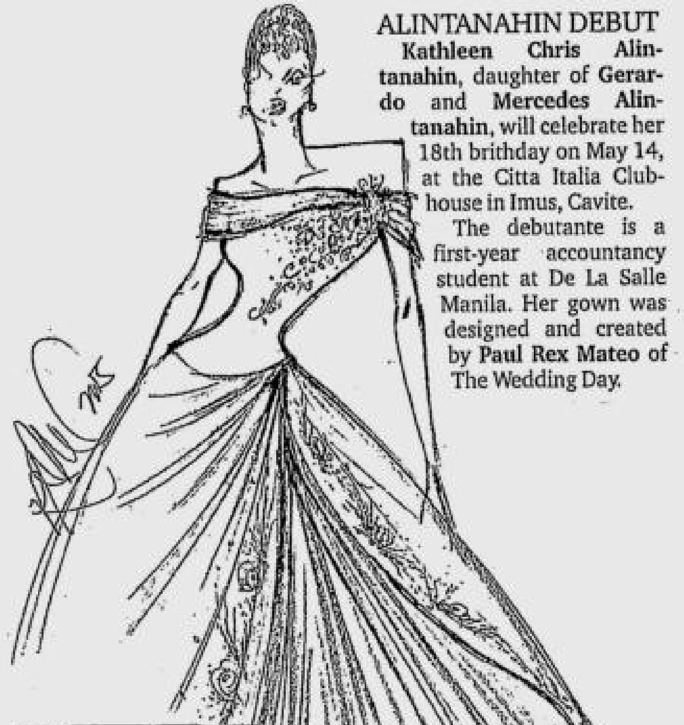
Milestones

ALFEREZ-JUANICO

Jasmine Juanico, daughter of Prof. and Ms **Meliton Juanico**, recently married **Marshall Louis Alferez**, son of engineer and Ms **Vicente Alferez**, at the St. Francis of Assisi Chapel, Fernwood Gardens, Sanville, QC. Reception followed at Fernwood's Coral Tree Garden. The couple is now residing in Bangkok, Thailand.

JAMERO-MIRANO

Christopher Miranda Jamero, son of Mr. and Ms **Danilo Jamero**, will marry **Ruby Halili Mirano**, daughter of lawyer and Ms **William Mirano**, on June 4 at the Queen of Peace Church in Bacolod City. Reception will follow at L'Fisher Hotel.



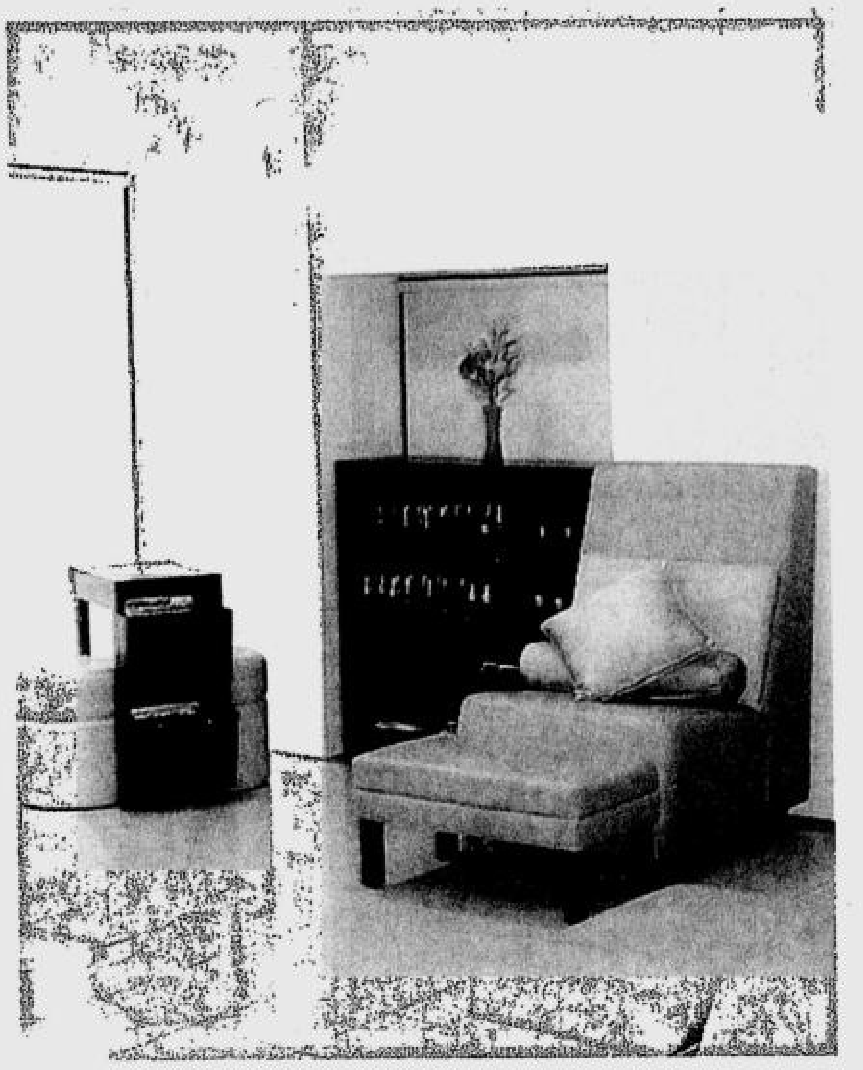
ALINTANAHIN DEBUT

Kathleen Chris Alintanahin, daughter of **Gerardo** and **Mercedes Alintanahin**, will celebrate her 18th brithday on May 14, at the Citta Italia Clubhouse in Imus, Cavite.

The debutante is a first-year accountancy student at De La Salle Manila. Her gown was designed and created by **Paul Rex Mateo** of The Wedding Day.

RIETA DEBUT

Jeannie Rieta, daughter of **Jocelyn Corona**, celebrated her 18th birthday at Ibarra's Garden in Malate, Manila. She is a BS Management freshman at De La Salle University. Her gown was designed by **Paul Rex Mateo** of The Wedding Day.



LINMARR provides guests a homey ambiance.

Special but affordable banquets

LINMARR Suites and Appartelle of Davao City has prepared special and affordable banquet packages for wedding receptions and other occasions.

The packages cover details for successful and worry-free weddings—from cakes to doves, place cards and fresh flowers, even the guestbook.

Linmarr also offers different venues with unique characteristics to suit every occasion. The Grand Ballroom exudes an Old World charm and elegance, perfect for weddings. The Ballroom de Linmarr is ideal for intimate gatherings. Open-air celebrations are best suited for the romantic La Orchidia garden area.

Owner Gene Bangayan said at the heart of every occasion was the distinctive, creative and delicious banquets prepared by Linmarr's internationally trained chef. Linmarr's offers different cuisines from Filipino to American to other Asian dishes.

Call 82-2212915 or fax 82-2215748.

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JADE GARDEN Kwang Tong Asia Peking Garden Tong Yang

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CHATEAU PORTICO

FILIPINO
Remedios Cabalen Café Palma Gil Davao HARBOR VIEW SENTRO 1771

GERMAN
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JAPANESE
KANYOEN RESTAURANT CORP. KIMPURA New Kamameshi House Tsuru

MEXICAN
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SPANISH
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Krua Thai

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CAFÉS, BARS AND BISTROS
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'State-side' serendipity

Franz Joseph Rufino and Maria Pamela 'Mench' Duran tie the knot in a beautiful wedding at Santuario de San Antonio

NEWLYWEDS Franz Joseph and Maria Pamela (nee Duran) Rufino

By Rowena C. Burgos

FOR FRANZ Joseph Rufino and Maria Pamela "Mench" Duran, finding each other was serendipity.

They met four years ago in a Singles for Christ fellowship in San Francisco, California. Despite their busy schedules, both managed to be active in the ministry.

Franz, a graduate of the University of San Francisco McLaren School of Business, used to work for Morgan Stanley Securities and was a trainee at Merrill Lynch. He's now with the Union Bank of California as financial services representative.

On the other hand, Mench, a graduate of Assumption College and Ateneo de Manila University, had just finished her masteral programs in marketing and management in San Francisco.

In order to get to know each other, the two often went out on dates. After a few months, Franz asked Mench to be his girlfriend. In 2003, Franz proposed marriage.

'Upon learning of the engagement, the couple's parents, Joey and Ching Rufino, and Rommel and Venus Duran, were just as happy and excited as the couple.

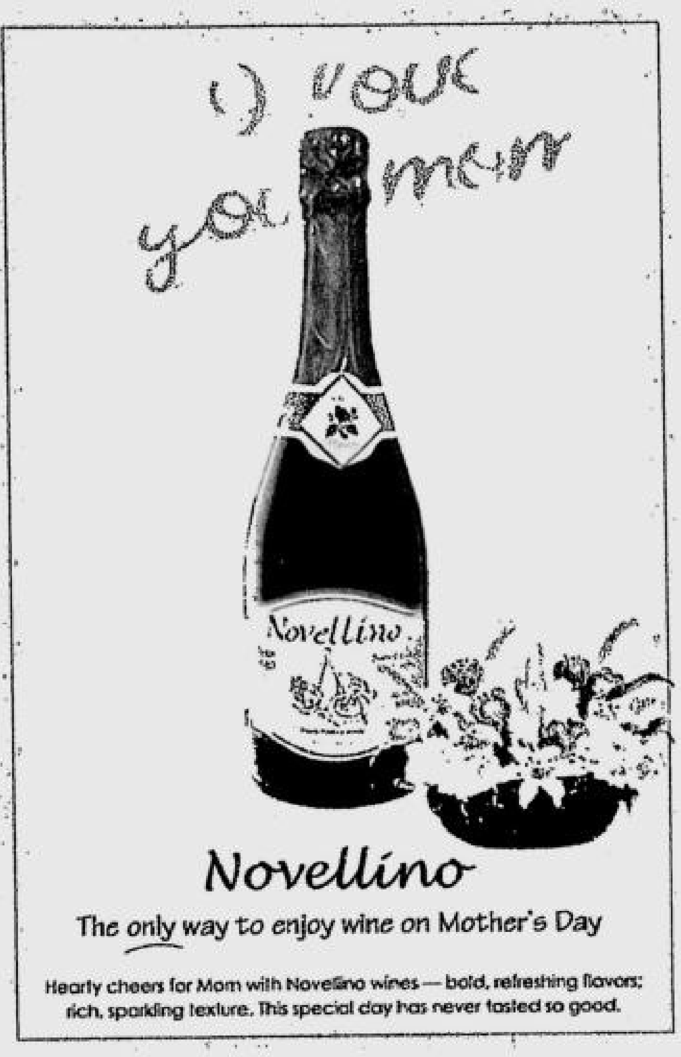
NEWLYWEDS Franz and Mench with President Macapagal-Arroyo and their parents, Rommel and Venus Duran, and Ching and Joey Rufino

Memorable affair

Santuario de San Antonio in Forbes Park, Makati, was the setting for the "beautiful and solemn wedding" of Franz and Mench.

According to Franz's father, Joey Rufino, the occasion became "more romantic and emotional" with the music provided by Bernie Pasamba in the church and at the reception venue, Manila Polo Club.

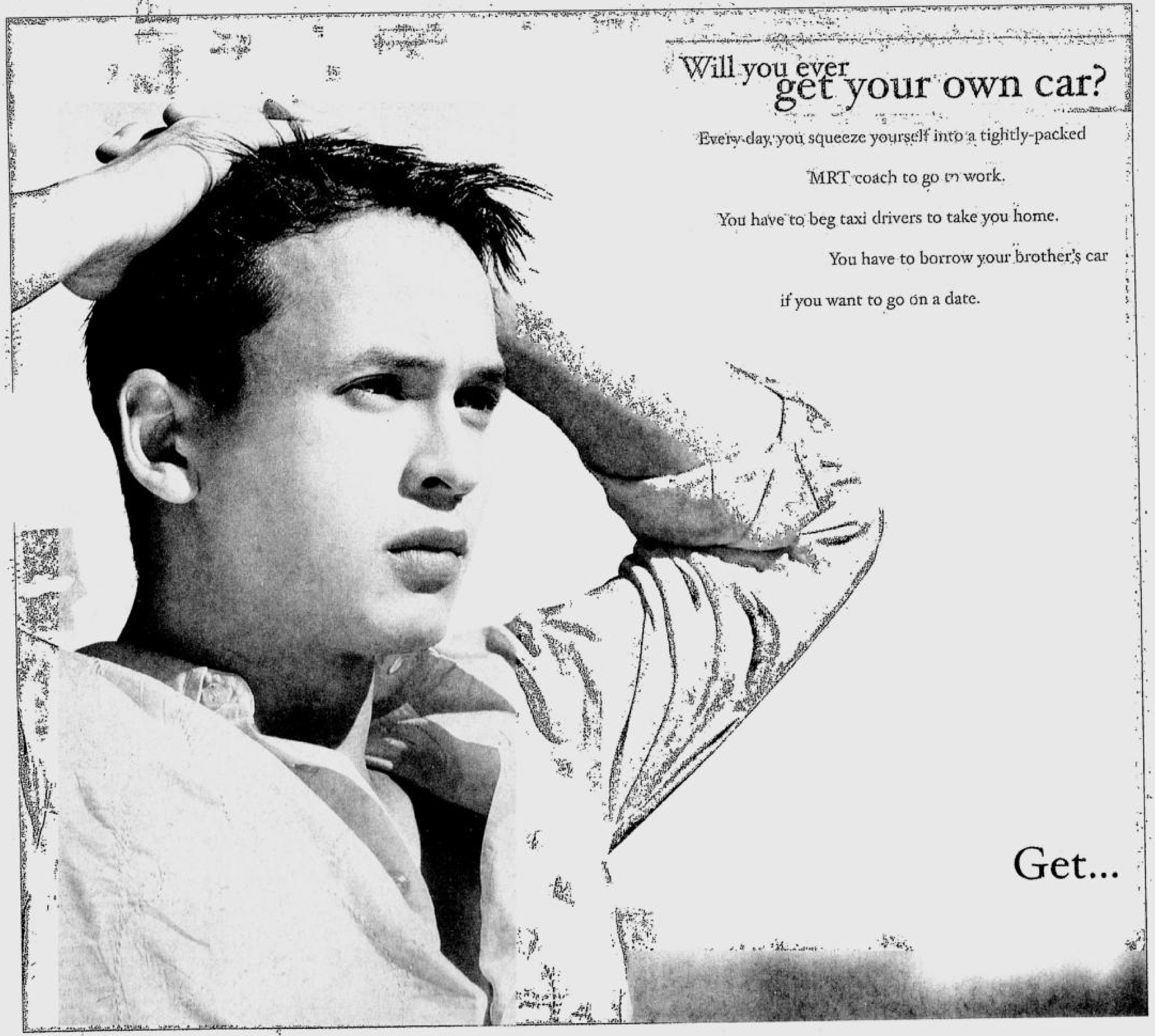
'STATE-SIDE'/ K2



Novellino

The only way to enjoy wine on Mother's Day

Hearty cheers for Mom with Novellino wines — bold, refreshing flavors; rich, sparkling texture. This special day has never tasted so good.



Will you ever get your own car?

Every day, you squeeze yourself into a tightly-packed
MRT coach to go to work.
You have to beg taxi drivers to take you home.
You have to borrow your brother's car
if you want to go on a date.

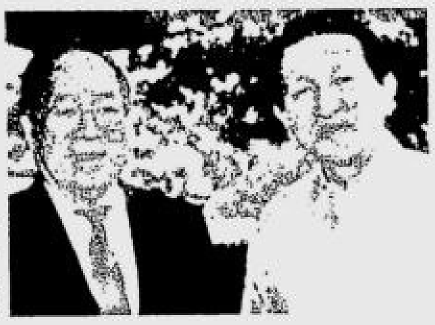
Get...

THE PRINCIPAL sponsors: Amalia Meloto, Emma Siccion, Zenaida Dimapilis, Oma del Carmen, Josefina Aspillera, Naty Golez, Ms Arroyo, newlyweds, Oscar M. Lopez, Carlos Arguelles, BSP governor Rafael Buenaventura, Antonio Meloto, Manny Rufino proxied by Tony Rufino, Lucio Tan proxied by Harry Tan, Arturo Agana and bestman Jose Ma. G. Rufino, Jr.

'State-side' serendipity

MENCH and the bridesmaids: Mary Rose Samaniego, Michelle Ann Reyes, Jeanette Castro and Kathryn Leah Soriano

SPEAKER Jose de Venecia flanked by former envoy to the Vatican, Amb. Francisco Alba, and Mongolia Honorary Consul Tony Rufino



AUGUSTO "Jake" Almeda-Lopez of ABS-CBN with Parañaque Rep. J. Roilo Golez

LUCIO Tan proxied by Harry Tan and Josie Aspillera

MS ARROYO and Oscar M. Lopez

From page K1

The flower arrangements in the church were done by San Ramon, Entourage & Polo while the reception venue was designed by Jun Hen. The wedding planners and coordinators were the Third Party of Jonathan Dy, Alfred Luna and Amy Pomoy. Catering was provided by Rene and Lynn Sunico's Makati Skyline.

The occasion's color motif was periwinkle blue, and the gowns of Mench and her entourage were executed by Len Nepomuceno-Guiao. Franz, on the other hand, wore a black Hugo Boss suit.

Sponsors

The principal sponsors were President Macapagal-Arroyo and Oscar Lopez, Antonio Meloto and Amalia Meloto, Arturo Agana and Ema Siccion, and Carlos Arguelles and Zenaida Dimapilis.

Best man was Jose Maria Rufino Jr. and maid of honor was Mary Jo Samaco. Candle sponsors were Ramon del Carmen and Maria Ladrido. Veil sponsors were Patrick Duran and Divine Duran, while cord sponsors were Miltiades Bunuan and Winnie Padilla-Lim.

The officiating priests were Msgr. Rigoberto de Guzman and Msgr. Peter Canonero.

More than 500 guests attended the affair.

Before going back to San Francisco, the couple spent their honeymoon in Hong Kong.

E-mail the author at [illegible]burgos@inquirer.com.ph

Will you ever have your own house?

You're still living with your in-laws.

You're pregnant.

You will have to choose between the queen-size bed

and a crib.

There's no space for both.

Get Started...

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WITH UNCLES AND AUNTIES. Standing: Alex Prieto, the couple, Cary Rufino and Charlie Rufino. Seated: Ernest Rufino, Jr., Josie Rufino, TIPCO chair Elon and wife Sylvia Ting, and Chinit Rufino

THE JOEY Rufino Family

BSP governor Rafael Buenaventura and Naty Golez

GUESTS (standing) architect Jose Gutierrez, Amb. Frank Alba, the couple and Tony Guanzon. Seated: Mrs. Irene Gutierrez, Mrs. Tess Alba, Mrs. Linda Guanzon, Mrs. Hedy Duenas and Ms Maureen Martin

NEWLYWEDS with GSIS chair and Mrs. Bernardino Abes, Rep. Ignacio "Iggy" Arroyo and Presidential Brother Arturo "Art" and Mariter Macapagal

MOISES Ong, Patsie Leviste, lawyer Antonio and Fe Vilar with the couple

UCPB chair Jose Perez, Chinabank president Peter Dee and Export Industry chair Sergio Ortiz-Luis and wife Margie

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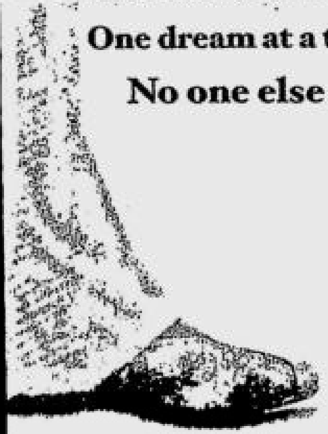

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GATCHALIAN-KUO NUPTIALS

Night of romance, wine and tulips

They were high school friends who fell in love much later after a blind date set up by friends

WHEN Kenneth Gatchalian and Mary Jeanette Kuo first met back in high school years ago, little did they know they would end up with each other.

It was only three years ago when they were set up on a blind date by friends. They fell in love and exchanged vows at the Manila Polo Club, adorned on that special occasion with a thousand white tulips and lights that imitated the colors of the sunset.

Gatchalian, son of William and Dee Hua Gatchalian, and Anette, daughter of Ricardo and Rosita Kuo, were married in a Christian ceremony celebrated by Pastor Peter Tan Chi.

Reception followed at the Rizal Ballroom of

NIGHT/ K7

KISS after ceremony

PRESIDENTIAL table set-up

FIRST dance

WITH WESLIE Gatchalian and group

WITH BRIDE'S family

GROOM'S family

WITH ANTONIO Kaw and group

WITH G. YANG and other sponsors

PRINCIPAL sponsors

Night of romance, wine and tulips

From page K6

ENTOURAGE

the Makati Shangri-La. Guests wined, dined and celebrated in a sea of red. Robert Blancaflor of 1816 decorated the venue with red amaryllis, red tulips, red ilex berries and peonies.

Red cloth was suspended from the ceiling as swathes of white gave the warmer hues a soft feel. It was an elegant and modern look that nevertheless stayed true to the couple's Chinese roots.

The reception was staged and planned by Jackie Aquino. A six-course feast was served over beautiful serenades by the 20-piece orchestra of Bernie Pasamba. A Fabergé egg wedding cake was created by Penk Ching of Pastry Bin.

The bride was made up by Juan Sarte and wore Rajo Laurel. Randy Ortiz dressed the groom and entourage's suits. The groom's mother wore Paul Cabral.

Guests left the reception with a box of specially made chocolate truffles by Waterfront Hotels & Casinos, each truffle being a delicious memento of Kenneth and Anette's sweet surrender to each other, on that night filled with laughter, wine and tulips.

WITH HENRY Sy, Jr. and group

WITH H. EVANGELISTA and group

Give mom a break

GIVE mom a much-needed break at Astoria Plaza, where she can have a one-bedroom suite for P3,150 or a two-bedroom suite for P4,950.

The one-bedroom suite includes a complimentary in-room massage while the two-bedroom suite includes in-room massage with foot spa.

Included in both packages are buffet breakfast, free use of the gym and pool, free round-trip shuttle service to nearby malls, complimentary bottled mineral water, free local newspaper and 10-percent discount at Stresscape Spa.

Room rates are subject to service charge and government taxes.

Mothers also have a chance to win prizes like free subscriptions to Summit Publications' Cosmo Magazine and gift packs from Blooming Fields' Summer's Eve and Rustan's Laura Mercier.

The Astoria Plaza is affiliated with the Cathay Group of Companies. Managed by Genesis Hotels & Resorts, it is at 15 J. Escriva Drive, Ortigas Business District, Pasig City. Call 6871111, e-mail sales @astoriaplaza.com, or log on to www.astoriaplaza.com.

Relaxing weekend in Tagaytay

TREAT mom to a relaxing weekend getaway at Discovery Country Suites Tagaytay. The Mother's Day package is available until today for only P7,800++ per night in the Ceylon, St. Tropez and Andalucia Suites; P8,500++ in the Nantucket, Siam and Nara Suites; and P10,500++ in the Oxford Suite.

Mom gets a bouquet, a complimentary set lunch for two at Verbena Restaurant, a special makeover session and skincare seminar, and a chance to win exciting prizes in the Mother's Day raffle. The package also includes a therapeutic and relaxing choice of Swedish or foot massage for relieving stress and easing tension.

She will also get complimentary country breakfast daily, and wine tasting with cheese and hors d'oeuvres.

The main restaurant, Verbena, is also offering a Mother's Day set menu for only P800++ per head.

Call Discovery Country Suites Tagaytay at (46)4134567 or Manila Reservations at (2) 6838383. Discovery Country Suites is at 300 Calamba Road, San Jose, Tagaytay City.

7 for 7

Seven Suites Hotel Observatory marks it seventh year on May 11 with the launch of a new look and a new logo.

The all-night celebration, "7 Cheers," features a Broadway presentation from Trumpets Theater group, raffle prizes and fireworks display.

Seven different packages will be launched— Weddings, Debut, Kiddie Theme Party, Kids' Astro, Retreat, Corporate Team Building, Wellness and Pampering.

Seven Suites Hotel Observatory is located at Hollywood Hills Subdivision, Sumulong Highway, Antipolo City. It is just 30 minutes away from Cubao or Ortigas. Call 6775401/02 and 2405093 or e-mail sevensuites@cravingsgroup.com or call the Manila Sales Office at 9268985.

Merry month of moms

THE Peninsula Manila pays homage to moms everywhere with a special day-long lineup of activities on May 8, Mother's Day.

The Lobby offers Mother's Day Sunday Brunch at P1,420++ (Adults) and P850++ (Children 12 under) from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

The Upper Lobby serves afternoon tea for P495++, 2:30-5:30 p.m.

Nielsen's Buffet and a la carte breakfast is available for P750++ (Buffet) 6-10 a.m. and Mother's Day Sunday Brunch for P1,220++ (Adults) and P740++ (Children 12 under) 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Mi Place serves a la carte lunch (11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.) and dinner 6:30-11:30 p.m. Spices also serves a la carte lunch 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. but dinner is 6-11 p.m.

Old Manila serves a la carte dinner and four-course menu for P2,200++ (Adults) and P1,300++ (Children 12 under). Dinner is 6:30-11:30 p.m.

All mothers will receive a complimentary box of Peninsula Chocolates.

Call 8872888 or 8123456, extension 2205.

Meanwhile, Peninsula Exclusivités offers goodies mom will enjoy like Heavenly Moist Chocolate Cake, Strawberry Cheesecake, handmade chocolates, fine wines to gourmet delicatessen items.

For inquiries or reservations, please contact Peninsula Exclusivités at 8872888, extension 2968 or 2970.

Colorful bouquets are available at The Peninsula Manila Lower Lobby Arcade. Open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Call The Peninsula Manila Flower Shop, 8872888, extension 2972.

From April 29 to May 8, local residents, *Balikbayans* or foreign nationals living in the Philippines can stay in a Superior Room for only P4,250++ per night.

The offer is inclusive of:

- Buffet breakfast at Nielsen's for two adults and two children 6 and under.
- One round-trip hotel Mercedes Benz limousine transfer to Greenbelt, Glorietta or Power Plant, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
- Complimentary local calls

The Mother's Day Room Package is also available at P3,500++ per night exclusive of breakfast.

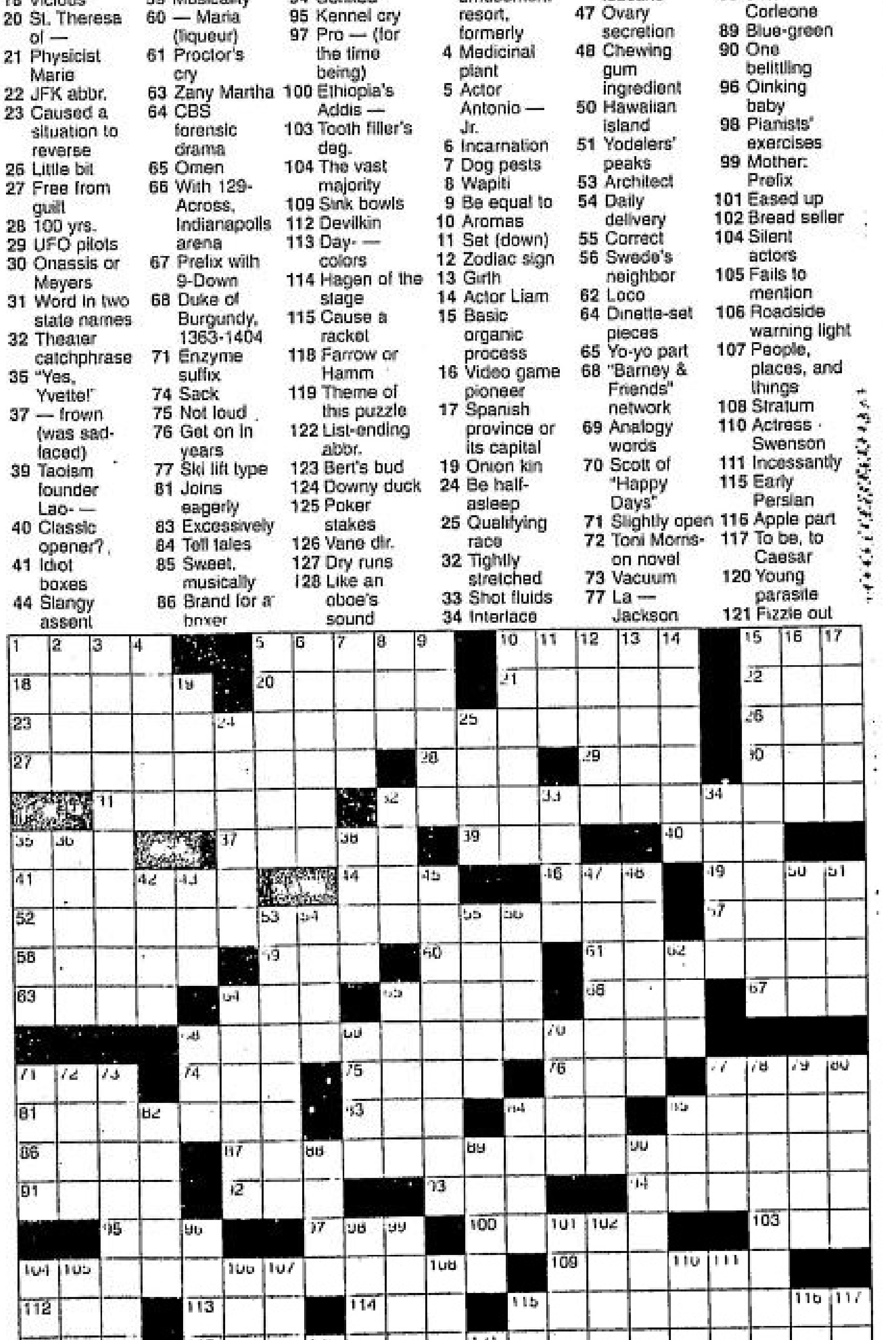
Call The Peninsula Manila Room Reservations at 8872888, extension 2100.

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

ACROSS
1 Serves superbly
5 Oregon's capital
10 Mass of eggs
15 PC alternative
18 Vicious
20 St. Theresa of —
21 Physicist Marie
22 JFK abbr.
23 Caused a situation to reverse
26 Little bit
27 Free from guilt
28 100 yrs.
29 UFO pilots
30 Onassis or Meyers
31 Word in two state names
32 Theater catchphrase
35 "Yes, Yvette!"
37 — frown (was sad-faced)
39 Taoism founder Lao- —
40 Classic opener?
41 Idiot boxes
44 Slangy assent
46 VCR button abbr.
49 — mater
52 Sprinter's event
57 Medicine bottle
58 Funeral song
59 Musicality
60 — Maria (liqueur)
61 Proctor's cry
63 Zany Martha
64 CBS forensic drama
65 Omen
66 With 129-Across, Indianapolis arena
67 Prefix with 9-Down
68 Duke of Burgundy, 1363-1404
71 Enzyme suffix
74 Sack
75 Not loud
76 Get on in years
77 Ski lift type
81 Joins eagerly
83 Excessively
84 Tell tales
85 Sweet, musically
86 Brand for a boxer
87 Period in America's history
91 Slum scurriers
92 Indian title of respect
93 Sleep cycle acronym
94 Conked
95 Kennel cry
97 Pro — (for the time being)
100 Ethiopia's Addis —
103 Tooth filler's deg.
104 The vast majority
109 Sink bowls
112 Devilkin
113 Day- — colors
114 Hagen of the stage
115 Cause a racket
118 Farrow or Hamm
119 Theme of this puzzle
122 List-ending abbr.
123 Bert's bud
124 Downy duck
125 Poker stakes
126 Vane dir.
127 Dry runs
128 Like an oboe's sound
129 See 66-Across

DOWN
1 Entr'— (intermission)
2 Main idea
3 Paris amusement resort, formerly
4 Medicinal plant
5 Actor Antonio — Jr.
6 Incarnation
7 Dog pests
8 Wapiti
9 Be equal to
10 Aromas
11 Set (down)
12 Zodiac sign
13 Girth
14 Actor Liam
15 Basic organic process
16 Video game pioneer
17 Spanish province or its capital
19 Onion kin
24 Be half-asleep
25 Qualifying race
32 Tightly stretched
33 Shot fluids
34 Interlace
35 Additional
36 Soft palate projection
38 One ogling
42 Advantage
43 Take a shot at
45 Small, frosted teacake
47 Ovary secretion
48 Chewing gum ingredient
50 Hawaiian island
51 Yodelers' peaks
53 Architect
54 Daily delivery
55 Correct
56 Swede's neighbor
62 Loco
64 Dinette-set pieces
65 Yo-yo part
68 "Barney & Friends" network
69 Analogy words
70 Scott of "Happy Days"
71 Slightly open
72 Toni Morrison novel
73 Vacuum
77 La — Jackson
78 Becomes mixed with
79 Owning lots of land
80 Peruses
82 Lay down as fact
84 Tree branch
85 "Dr." of rap
88 Don Corleone
89 Blue-green
90 One belittling
96 Oinking baby
98 Pianists' exercises
99 Mother: Prefix
101 Eased up
102 Bread seller
104 Silent actors
105 Fails to mention
106 Roadside warning light
107 People, places, and things
108 Stratum
110 Actress Swenson
111 Incessantly
115 Early Persian
116 Apple part
117 To be, to Caesar
120 Young parasite
121 Fizzle out



answer on page I-2

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Building More Than Just Malls

Subsidiary: SM SYNERGY PROPERTIES HOLDINGS CORPORATION

SM Development Corporation (SMDC), a part of the SM Group of Companies, has made it its goal to provide the Filipino with affordable quality homes. By all indications, the company is not only headed in the right direction, it is proving to be a force to reckon with in the real estate industry.

With a track record that includes the chain of SM Malls all over the country, SMDC definitely has the proven capability to pursue plans in the field of residential and tourism-related developments. This early, four major developments are in full swing.

The Chateau Elysee. A French Mediterranean community, the Chateau Elysee ushers in the condoville concept, a new experience in condominium living evoking a sense of community. It features six clusters surrounding a clubhouse for recreation and social activities, including a swimming pool, a jogging trail, a gym, a social hall, and badminton and basketball courts. The Chateau Elysee gives residents a choice of studio, one, two, and three-bedroom units. Located in Bicutan, Paranaque, it is a quiet, cloistered community, but still conveniently situated just 15 minutes from bustling Makati.

Cluster 1, known as Concorde, has already been completed and is being enjoyed by the unit owners. Cluster 2, called Lafayette, is nearing completion, while Cluster 3 will be launched soon. The owners will get to enjoy the clubhouse before the year ends.

NorthPointe Residences. For those who want to reside within walking distance to the original supermall, SM City North EDSA, SMDC conceptualized NorthPointe Residences. This 16-storey condominium project will feature an elevated bridgeway that will connect directly to the mall, making for unexcelled shopping convenience for its residents. Situated on a five-hectare parcel of prime land, NorthPointe Residences will be composed of four quadrants, each with one, two and three-bedroom units. Each quadrant will have its own swimming pool. The development has a clubhouse, amenities hall, badminton court and generous landscaped gardens.

Boasting of a contemporary design that will make it a standout among condominium developments in the area, NorthPointe Residences is envisioned to be a residence that unit owners will be proud of.

Hamilo. A magnificent view of the South China Sea and 31 kilometers of shoreline greet visitors to the Hamilo site in Nasugbu, Batangas. Hamilo has 13 breathtaking beach coves. The 5,200-hectare property is adjacent to Mt. Palay-Palay National Reserve, a protected natural park.

Phase 1 includes residential communities, a sports club, an 18-hole golf course, and a beach club. It will have the most comprehensive water and mountain sports facilities. Once completed, Hamilo will be a paradise resort where visitors can look forward to the best of times.

Baguio Residences. The Philippines's summer capital will soon have an exciting new landmark, in Baguio Residences. Envisioned to be a condotel, this development will service both residents and visitors to Baguio City. For these clients, studio, one, two and three-bedroom units will be available. This magnificent 10,500-square meter development will include the full spectrum of amenities: a coffee house, a gym, a supermarket and retail outlets. A 2,500-square meter landscaped garden will complete the Baguio Residences experience.

A joint project of GSIS and SMDC, Baguio Residences promises to make every visit to Baguio an exciting and rewarding experience.

These projects are just the beginning of what SM Group of Companies Chairman Henry Sy, Sr. envisions to be a long-term commitment to providing Filipinos with quality affordable residences and exciting tourist activity options. "The core business of real estate, which is SMDC's springboard to the future, shall be positioned to maximize the synergies from a recognized brand name, a solid business plan, and a strong financial base," Sy said.

With SM Development Corporation moving forward in the real estate industry, Filipinos can look ahead to a more affordable yet higher standard of living.

Interested parties can call SM Development at 831-1000 local 1382 or 833-2957.

Where Life Comes Together

Introducing the condoville concept. It's a whole new level of community living, only at Chateau Elyseé. Enjoy a lifestyle of security and leisure in a natural and friendly environment. Everything you look for in 21st century cosmopolitan living is right here. Wide roads. Open spaces. Captivating landscapes. Modern facilities. All in a condominium complex that evokes a sense of community.

At Chateau Elyseé, everything falls into place. Beautifully.

Visit our model units at Doña Soledad Avenue Extension, Bicutan, Parañaque City or Building A SM Corporate Offices 1000 Bay Boulevard, Pasay City.

CHATEAU
ELYSEE

Please call 833-2957, 831-1000 locals 1380, 1381, 1382, or 1378, 0918-8881203, 0921-4302377, 0918-9424414

SM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Subsidiary: SM SYNERGY PROPERTIES HOLDINGS CORPORATION

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SYLVIA, her face framed by natural curls, sports a navy collared shirt, knitted vest and denim skirt by Polo Ralph Lauren.

Kids who know exactly what Mom wants

NOEY in an orange striped shirt, navy knitted vest and khaki cargo pants by Polo Kids

KIDS of some of today's most celebrated young moms gave their parents a pre-Mother's Day thrill by allowing themselves to be dolled up like little adults.

The girls, in particular, tried to look like their moms.

The tykes even made one adult-like decision—choose Mother's Day gifts for their moms. One of them pointed to gift items from Lush, Fruits and Passion, and Beauty Bar, and said, "My mom will love these."

The kids, without coaching from their parents, posed gamely for photographer Sarah Black.

Stylists Cris Estalilla and Fe Ventura of the new Backstage Salon on Pasong Tamo Extension owned by Chi Chi Silverio, Vanes

KIDS/L2

KATHRYN and Audrey in Polo Kids with *kikay* items for mom from Lush, Beauty Bar and Kenzo

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Promo runs April 10 to June 30, 2005.

In Theaters May 2005

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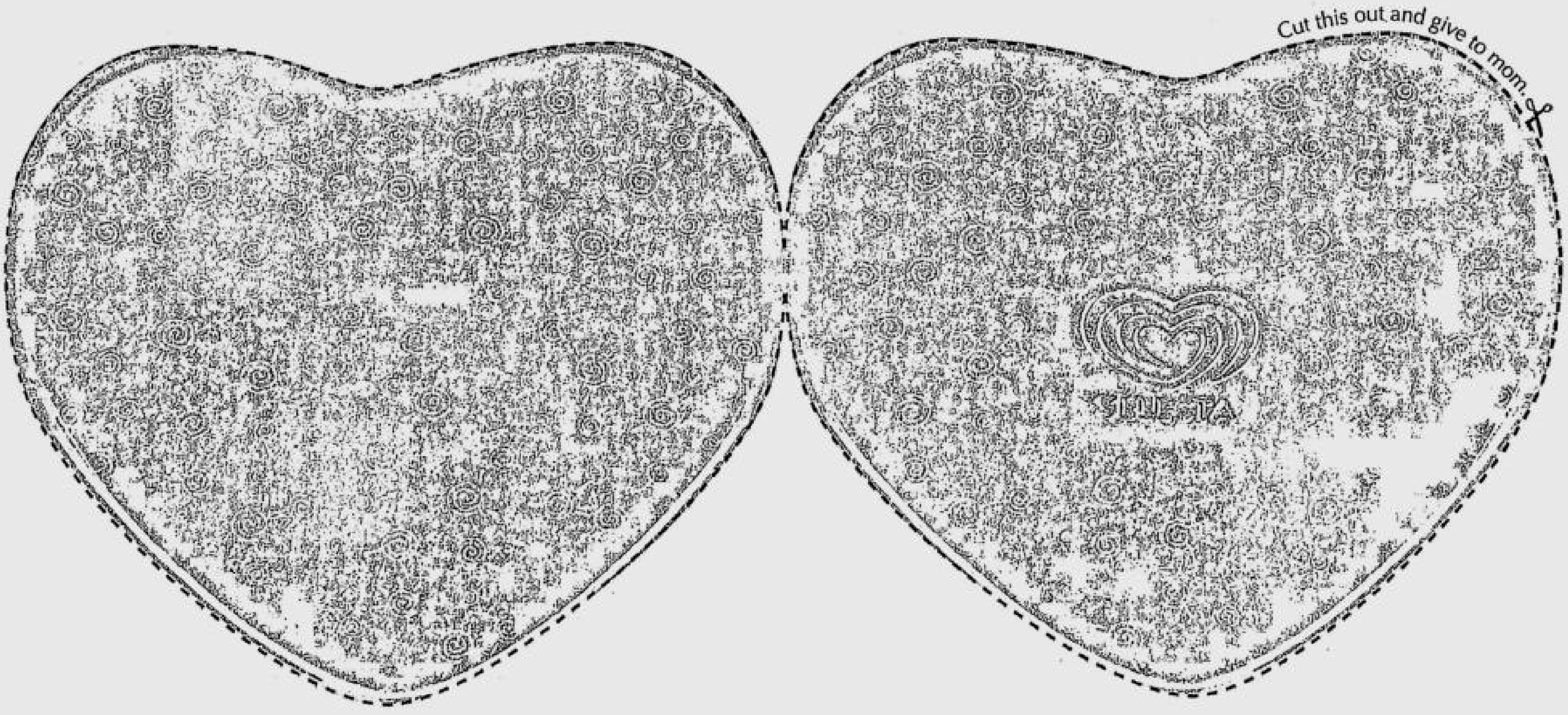


Cut this out and give to mom.

MANUEL is smart in a spiked 'do and orange collared shirt by Lacoste and khaki cargo pants by Polo Ralph Lauren.

DIEGO wears a red sweater and navy pants by Polo Kids

NOEY, in a button down striped shirt by Lacoste, with a YSL bag for mom

AUDREY prepares a Cucina gift package for mom.

KATHRYN, with her China chop look, wears a pink cardigan and printed skirt by Polo Kids and holds a Givenchy gift item for mom.

Kids who know exactly what Mom wants

FRANKIE in a cream knitted vest, navy collared shirt by Polo Kids and I Love Mommy gift from Lush

JENNY in a pink collared shirt and pink pleated skirt by Polo Ralph Lauren with gift item from Elizabeth Arden; Frankie in a tangerine collared shirt by Lacoste and Mikee in a light blue shirt by Lacoste, both carrying Fruits and Passion Mother's Day gift sets

MIKEE and Frankie in punky 'dos and lime and olive striped collared shirts by Lacoste with select gift suggestions from Fruits and Passion

MIKEE in a green striped collared shirt and denim pants with a surprise for Mom from Beauty Bar

From page L1

sa Dulay, Robin Magdangal and Gene Dy prepared the kids for the photo shoot.

Chic getups were courtesy of Polo Kids and Lacoste Kids.

Seven-year-old Frankie and nine-year-old Mikee Tuason, sons of Tina Gonzalez and Miguel Tuason, looked smart in Lacoste honeycomb tees and ultra-modern hairdos.

Joined by sister Jenny, they selected a full range of beauty, fragrances and well-being items such as Human from Fruits and Passion, Elizabeth Arden and Philosophy.

In a smart polo shirt and vest, two-year-old Noey dela Merced, with a punky gelled-up hair, went straight for the Yves Saint-Laurent, Tod's and Nine West items. When his mother asked if he was giving those things to her for Mother's Day, the tot replied, "Later Mommy, they are shooting me."

Kathryn, 4, wearing pink, got a China "chop," making her look like a Chinese doll. For mom, she chose Givenchy fragrance. Sister Audrey, 1, beamed in a green and white striped dress and slightly brushed-back hair that highlighted her naturally fine hair.

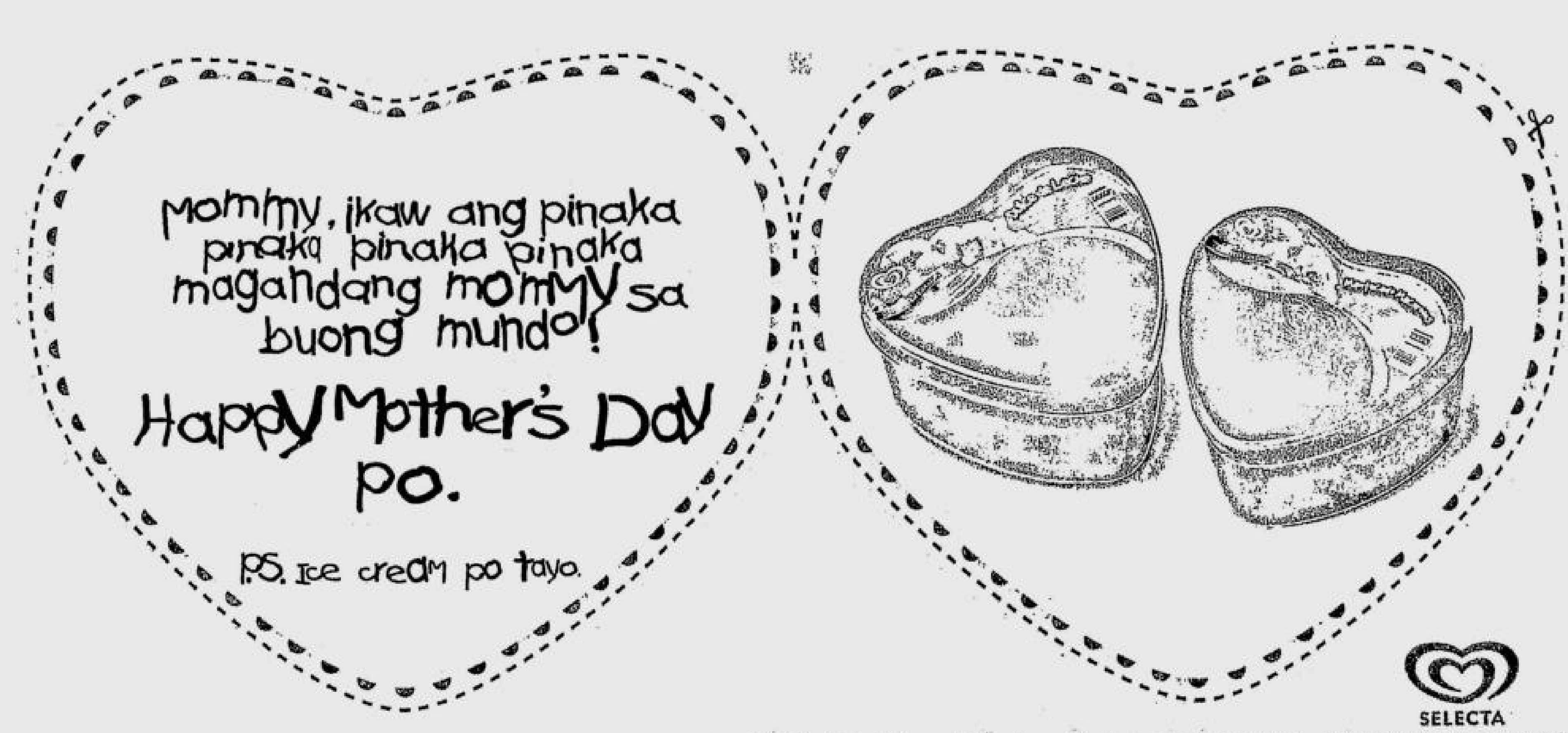
The two are daughters of Tina Mendoza and IT executive Alex Rodriguez.

Manuel, three-year-old son of Mandy Boy and Neny Eduque, showed he had the makings of a heartbreaker in his school-boy getup and suave hairstyle.

One-year-old Diego Gonzalez, son of Raymond and Thess Gonzalez, had an ultra-cool slightly combed look. He may be young but he knew exactly what to get his mom as he picked out a Lush gift set, Bass accessory and Amazing Grace by Philosophy.

Ultra *kikay* five-year-old Sylvia, daughter of Kitkat Zobel, stole the show with her ultra lush beautiful curls and long lashes. Taking after her mother, she chose her outfits, discussed with the hairstylist how she wanted her hair done and with the photographer her best angle.

Other children wanting to make Mother's Day special for their moms can take a cue from these kids and treat their parents to a day of pampering at Backstage Salon (8153524) or give them the perfect fragrance from Nina Ricci, Elizabeth Arden, Kenzo, Givenchy and Carolina Herrera, all exclusively distributed by Rustan Marketing Corporation. Other gift possibilities from Stores Specialists, Inc. include choice selections from Gucci, Burberry, Laundry, Jessica, Episode, Kate Spade, among others.


Mommy, ikaw ang pinaka pinaka pinaka pinaka magandang mommy sa buong mundo!
Happy Mother's Day po.
P.S. Ice cream po tayo.

SELECTA
Moms deserve only the best. Celebrate with Selecta Limited Edition's "Mantecado Macaroons" and "Dulce de Leche" in special heart cans. Give to mom before it's gone.
Mas masarap talaga pag may Selecta.

Let your mom enjoy a special treat of Selecta Limited Edition's "Mantecado Macaroons" and "Dulce de Leche" when you visit the following establishments from May 6, 7 and 8, 2005.
SM Megamall Bakahan at Manukan • Presidential Tea House • Tia Maria • Sushi Mart • Komoro Soba • Pot & Noodles • Krua Thai • Koryo House • Rai Rai Ken • Rasa • Café Metro • Sake San Japanese • Saisaki • Dad's • Kamayan • Cabalen • **ATC** Tequila Joe's • Subway • Cable Car • The Red Crab • Gerry's Grill • Kobachi • Gloria Maris • Via Mare • Italianni's • Recipes • China Star • Saisaki • Dad's • Kamayan

ILLUSTRATION: ALBERT G. RODRIGUEZ

Bless
the nanny and the children

By Maria Romina dR. Pe Benito
Contributor

For 14 years, she was both a homemaker and a nurturer

MY SON'S *Ate/Nanay* Chona will leave us soon. Months from now I will be taking over her place after 14 years of being able to work on a full-time basis.

Chona has been caring for Jose since he was about give months old. With her leaving, I will lose the person who manned the fort, so to speak, in my absence. It is difficult to find someone like Chona who is a wonderful combination of homemaker and nurturer. Chona is *ate* not only to my youngest child who is now eight years old, but also to Karina, my eldest child.

I do not know how it will be for me. I do not know how capable I will be as a full-time mother. Mothers work to be able to provide for the material needs of their children. We work because we also derive personal fulfillment in making use of and being rewarded for whatever talents we have. We do so with peace in our minds and hearts, however, only when we leave our children with someone capable enough to temporarily take our place.

Without Chona or at least someone like her at home, I do not think I can be at peace while continuing to work. Who will meet my child after school, make sure he eats well, is safe, and has his homework done?

The homework part is the hardest task to assign to just any helper. The academic life I experienced as an elementary-school student way back in the 1970s seems to be a lot more simple and less stressful than that of my son in the present time.

As a child, my own mother was always around for my needs since she was a full-time housewife. I counted on her to fetch me without fail from school. She brought me and my sisters hot home-cooked lunches. On one or two occasions she was my lifesaver in a time when parents were still not yet encouraged to ignore their children's requests for school materials forgotten at home.

Anticipating Chona's departure as early as two years ago, I had asked a good friend who is in the province to help me look for her replacement. She balked at my requirements: someone more than a homemaker who could also be a teacher and a friend to my son. It surely is hard to find the close to perfect *ate*.

Children are the best ones to determine the genuineness or duplicity in the intentions of those taking care of them. Surely those who made the worst and the best impressions are the most memorable ones.

My husband distinctly remembers the woman who took care of him and his siblings. She had this misguided attempt to amuse them by lying down and pretending to be dead!

Then there was a caregiver whose idea perhaps of discipline was to tie the child to a chair. It was a good thing that neighbors noting the youngster's frequent cries alerted the parents to his plight. I also heard of a maid who seduced her pre-teenage ward!

For about three years since I was 7 or 8, I had my own *Ate* Chona in Lydia. I remember Lydia being so much fun to be with as she attended to my needs. I felt happy and safe with her. It is truly a blessing to have been cared for by good *ates* who truly like children.

From infancy up to the time she was about 7 years old, my eldest child went through four different *ates*. She learned to be independent quite early.

During weekdays, I could attend to her school needs only at night and in the few times I could be absent from work.

Without being asked, Chona took it upon herself to also take care of Karina when Maricel left. I asked my daughter recently if as a working mother I had failed her in some big way when she was growing up. My 11-year-old daughter told me to stop thinking of such things for I did not. I was glad to know that young as she is, she herself firmly believes that she has turned out fine.

Months from now, I will be treading on unfamiliar territory, but I must realize that Chona will likewise have her own set of adjustments.

The other day, Chona said she asked Jose if he would still know who she is if they would meet each other again someday. My son reportedly said that he certainly would if she identified herself.

I cannot ask for more from Chona considering that she has already spent a great part of her life with us, up to now rendering quality service to our family. I cannot begrudge her the desire to be free. I can make sure that Jose will never forget her. Hopefully like me, to her he will be forever grateful.

Looking for the best gifts for mom

FOR ACTRESS Jackie Lou Blanco, Mother's Day is a special occasion that can be celebrated simply but full with love. "We usually go out and have dinner with my mom, so that would also be our Mothers' Day gift to her," she says. "Very simple *lang*."

Indeed, for Jackie and her kids—Ken, 16, Rikki Mae, 12, and Arabella, 8—there's no need for anything too extravagant or too flashy to celebrate the special day, especially when every day is made special by the love and affection that they have with each other.

"Each of them are affectionate in different ways," Jackie says. Ara is very touchy and *malambing*. Eldest daughter Rikki Mae is opinionated and has a mind of her own. Their disagreements never overshadow the closeness between the two, though.

As for her eldest, Ken, Jackie feels blessed to have his trust. "I don't know if it's because he's my first child but he's very open with me." As the only boy in the family, Ken is also protective, especially with his mom. "*Binata na kasi, eh.*"

With the rising influence of media on kids today, Jackie feels lucky to have a close relationship with her children.

Such special bond between a parent and her children is the best gift that a mother could have for her special day.

That is why for this year's Mothers' Day, kids who want to give something extra special to their extraordinary moms don't have to look far or even spend a lot just to show a different way of saying, "I love you."

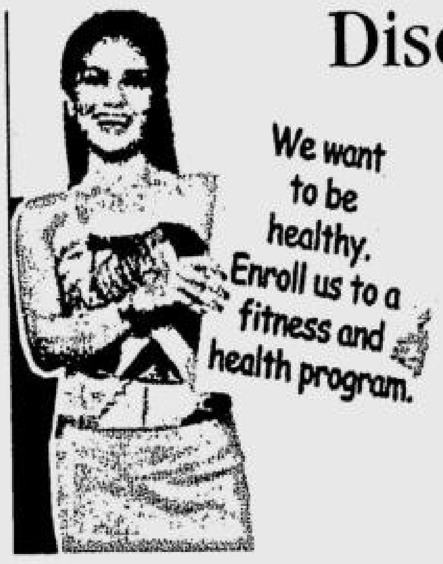
At the Metro Gaisano Department Store, they are sure to discover great buys for Mom's special occasion, from things of beauty, such as semi-precious stones, chain-link watches and intricate Indian jewelry, to trendy and handy accessories, such as pastel-colored pashminas, lady-like leather bags and cool eye wear.

MUGS with nice prints catch the ladies' attention at Metro Gaisano Department Store.

Let Mom's beauty shine by buying her beautifully pre-packaged make-up sets, or help her beautify the home with bright and kitschy home décor. Indulge her fashionable side with classic clothing pieces and make her feel like the wonderful woman that she is with a bottle of her favorite perfume.

The Metro Gaisano Department Store is at Global City, Taguig.

Discounts and more discounts


We want to be healthy. Enroll us to a fitness and health program.

THE SHOPWISE "Mother's Day Rally" turns the spotlight on moms with exciting merchandising activities and special discounts on produce, meat, seafood, condiments, kitchen utensils and even cookbooks.

Should a full-course dinner prove too much, how about baking a cake? On special sale this May are baking implements, flour, sugar and baking appliances.

A simple but touching way to show appreciation for mom would be to take over the cleaning chores for a week. If your budget permits, go big time and redecorate mom's room with new furnishings in soothing colors. Also on sale are bed and bath items that she will surely adore.

Finally, nothing communicates royal treatment better than a combo of breakfast in bed, followed by a full day of leisure activities topped by a romantic dinner with dad.

Shopwise has a wide array of tasty breakfast treats such as yogurt, milk, cereal, bacon, breads and fresh fruits, plus eye-catching fashion items.

Shopwise is located at the ground floor of the Festival Supermall in Alabang, at the corner of Pasong Tamo and Vito Cruz Sts. in Makati, along E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Bagumbayan, Libis, at the corner of General Aguinaldo and McArthur Avenues in Araneta Center, Cubao, Quezon City, and at the Royal Duty Free Shop in Subic.

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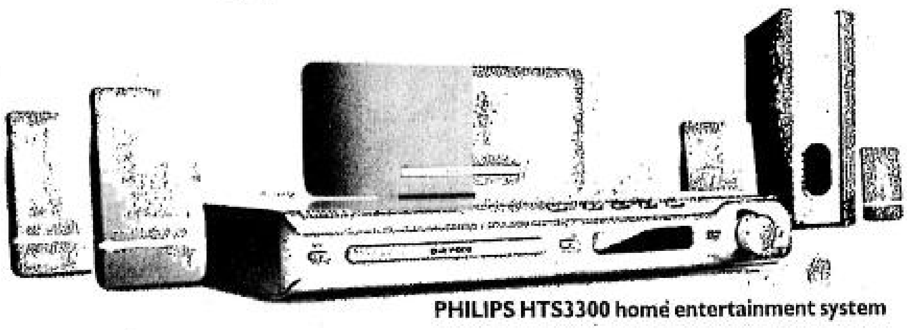
PHILIPS DVP5500S DVD player



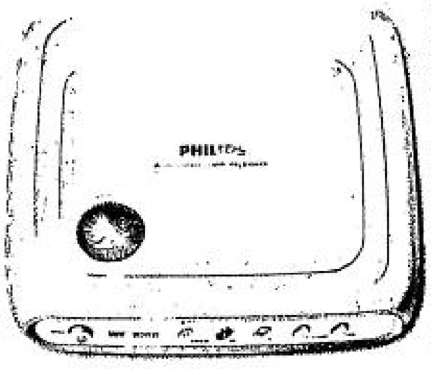
PHILIPS HTS3300 home entertainment system

DVD players galore

FOR EXCEPTIONAL power features, sheer design elegance and brand reliability, Philips DVD players continue to be a top choice among consumers. Philips is Europe's No. 1 consumer electronics company.

If you wish for something sleek, clutter-free and simple to use, there's the Philips DVP5500S. Packed in its slim body are impressive features such as multi-channel Super Audio CD to give music and surround sound movie experience that's as close to a live performance as a player can get, backed by 192KHz / 24-bit audio DAC and built-in Dolby Digital and DTS decoders. It also has a 12-bit/108MHz video processing high-resolution images.

To capture your best scenes in DVD, go for the high-end Philips DVDR520H, the perfect DVD recording solution. This DVD player comes with an 80-GB hard disk that accommodates up to 100 hours of TV or movie recording. Plus, it comes with optical disc recording to let you transfer in DVD. With its iLink digital connectivity, you can even preserve those valuable shots taken from your camcorder straight to DVD. The DVDs you create will play on other DVD players and even PC drives, so you can share your favorite stuff with family and friends.



PHILIPS DVP4000 portable DVD player

Because of the extreme speed of the Hard Disk drive in the Philips DVDR520H, you can watch the beginning of what you've recorded even while you're still recording the ending. This feature is called FlexTime.

Want to install your own theater at home? Then get the Philips HTS3300, a compact DVD Home Entertainment System that boasts of full cinematic sight and sound. Its DVD player comes bundled with an audio arsenal consisting of four 2-way satellite speakers and a two-way center speaker with subwoofer, enhanced with DTS, Dolby Digital 5.1, Dolby ProLogic II, and Class D Digital Amplifiers, all contributing to high-powered pure digital sound quality.

If you want entertainment anywhere you go, there's the Philips DVP4000 portable DVD player, which is most especially handy when you're stuck in a waiting room or a long trip for hours. This tiny, easy-to-setup bundle packs Philips' superior audio-video features, giving you the freedom and the luxury to indulge in sharp, crystal-clear picture and sound quality movies and music wherever and whenever you desire.

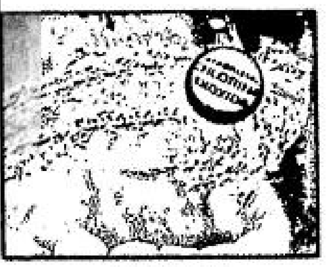
To obtain superior image reproduction, all Philips DVD players have Progressive Scan feature, which doubles the resolution of the image.

SILENCED BY FOUL ODORS?
Introducing the breakthrough OraCare Mouthrinse! Unlike mouthwashes with alcohol, it has Stabilized Chlorine Dioxide that's proven safe in getting rid of odor-causing bacteria even in hard-to-reach places of the mouth. So for your daily oral care, get the refreshing confidence of OraCare Mouthrinse!

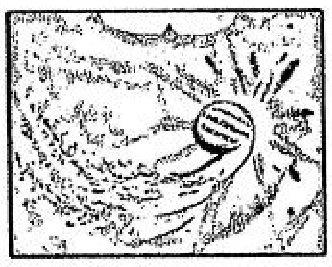
OraCare
MOUTHRINSE
For a breath of real freshness

ORAL CARE UPDATE
Finally,
a mouthrinse that cleans and freshens hard-to-reach places of the mouth!

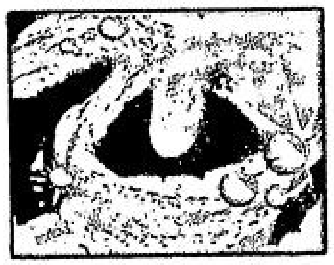
For your daily oral care, use OraCare Mouthrinse after toothbrushing.



Mouthwalls



Under the tongue



Back of the mouth

New OraCare Mouthrinse : A Breakthrough in Oral Care

We all know that brushing your teeth is a vital part of your hygiene regimen every day. But while brushing helps keep the teeth clean and healthy, it's not enough to get rid of bacteria lingering in other parts of the mouth.

And if you don't like gargling with mouthwash because of its burning sensation, preferring to risk having bad breath over the sting mouthwashes bring, here's a refreshing new product that's perfect for you.

New OraCare Mouthrinse, a breakthrough in oral care! Now you don't need to be silenced by foul odors! Because OraCare is the first mouthrinse with no alcohol content – it's safe and gentle on the delicate tissues lining the oral cavity. Only OraCare has the breakthrough active ingredient known as Stabilized Chlorine Dioxide – an oral antibacterial agent that gently cleans minus the stinging sensation.. It goes to work immediately upon contact with bacteria in the mouth and through its natural oxidation process, it releases oxygen that breaks down the cell wall of bacteria and eliminates odor-causing volatile sulfur compounds.

What's more, OraCare gently deep cleanses even in hard-to-reach areas, reducing plaque build-up and stops odor-causing bacteria from spreading. Unlike other alcohol-based mouthwashes, OraCare Mouthrinse contains purified water, Stabilized Chlorine Dioxide and peppermint flavor for an effective yet soothing gargling experience.

Now, you can say hello to a breath of real freshness with new OraCare Mouthrinse. Make it your daily oral care!

Here are some Frequently Asked Questions on OraCare and Stabilized Chlorine Dioxide:

What makes OraCare a breakthrough product?

OraCare is the first locally manufactured mouthwash product to use Stabilized Chlorine dioxide as its active ingredient. While this ingredient is already used and accepted in the United States and other parts of the world due to its safety and effectiveness, Pascual Laboratories is the first pharmaceutical company to make this ingredient locally available and affordable.

What is Stabilized Chlorine Dioxide?

Stabilized Chlorine Dioxide (ClO2) was discovered as an oxidizing agent which results in several beneficial actions such as destroying micro-organism and eliminating odors.. It was found to be very effective in keeping the mouth extremely clean. The utilization of Stabilized Chlorine Dioxide (ClO2) to safely oxidize the source of impurities generated in the mouth provides a pure and clean result.

What benefits and effects can be expected from Stabilized Chlorine Dioxide?

Among others, it gets rid of odor-causing bacteria even in hard-to-reach places of the mouth like under the tongue, walls of the mouth and the back of the mouth. It oxidizes single-celled organisms such as bacteria, germs, viruses, fungi, spores, yeast, mold and mildew. It eliminates all odors by oxidizing the sulfur bonds. Moreover, while it is effective, stabilized ClO2 has no harmful properties and is so safe that the US Environment Protection Agency rates its toxicity level the same as water.

SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2005

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Sunday LIFESTYLE

M1

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Knights of faith and charity

BISHOP Soc Villegas and Msgr. Couve de Murville with Aetas in Bataan

WORLD Day of the sick—Monsignor Tantoco anointing the sick

By Odelia Gregorio-Arroyo and Lena Vera
Contributors

WITH THE world premiere of the "Kingdom of Heaven," a movie about the Crusades that stars Orlando Bloom of the "Lord of the Rings" fame, it's perhaps timely to recall the Sovereign Military Order of Malta: defenders of the Faith in the modern world and crusaders of the 21st century.

"Tuitio Fidel et Obsequium Pauperum: Defense of the faith and service to the poor." The two elements in this motto are inseparable and interrelated: We defend our faith through our service to the poor and our service for the poor strengthens our faith.

These are the twin forces that have driven the work of the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta for almost 10 centuries now. But today they no longer raise their swords to fight. Their enemy in the 21st century is the suffering caused by disease, poverty, injustice and war.

The Sovereign Military Order of Malta (SMOM) is a lay religious order linked to the Holy See and based in Rome. It has 11,000 members and thousands of volunteers, and continues its long hospitaller tradition through hospitals, ambulance services and disaster relief. It is a universally recognized sovereign order governed by its own constitution and code, with diplomatic relations with 83 countries.

It aims to alleviate the sufferings of those burdened by disease, malnutrition and poverty through charitable institutions and varied hospitaller works in over 120 countries, including the Philippines.

Ancient order

The Order traces its roots to the 11th century before the First Crusade. It was born in the heart of Jerusalem as a monastic community, with St. John the Baptist as its patron. Within the walls of its hospice-infirmary, Christian soldiers and pilgrims, exhausted from the difficult journey or injured during battles, found care and much needed comfort.

The Second Crusade marked the Order's military beginnings. Members were compelled to take up arms to defend the sick, and they were recognized as the Knights Hospitaller of St. John.

It grew as a military power during the next two Crusades and became a fierce defender of the Christian faith, though it continued to maintain hospitals within its strongholds.

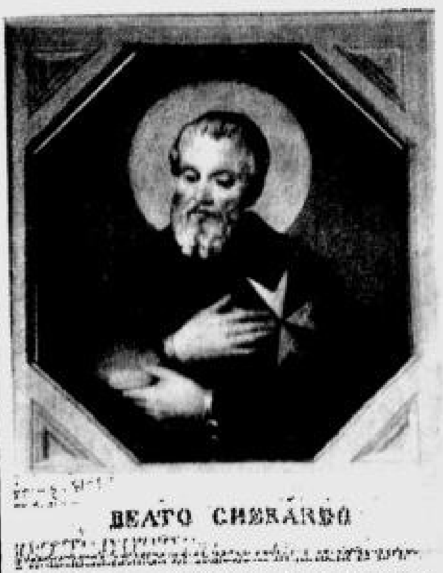
After the fall of Jerusalem to the Saracens, the Hospitaller Order of the Knights of St. John was forced to move its home, first to Rhodes, then to the rocky isle of Malta and finally to Rome. At every place its members built hospitals and infirmaries renowned as "modern" for their time, and tirelessly maintained them even during the most difficult periods in its history.

The Order has maintained its military task of defending the faith, but the weapons have changed—from swords and cannons to faith, worship and acts of charity.

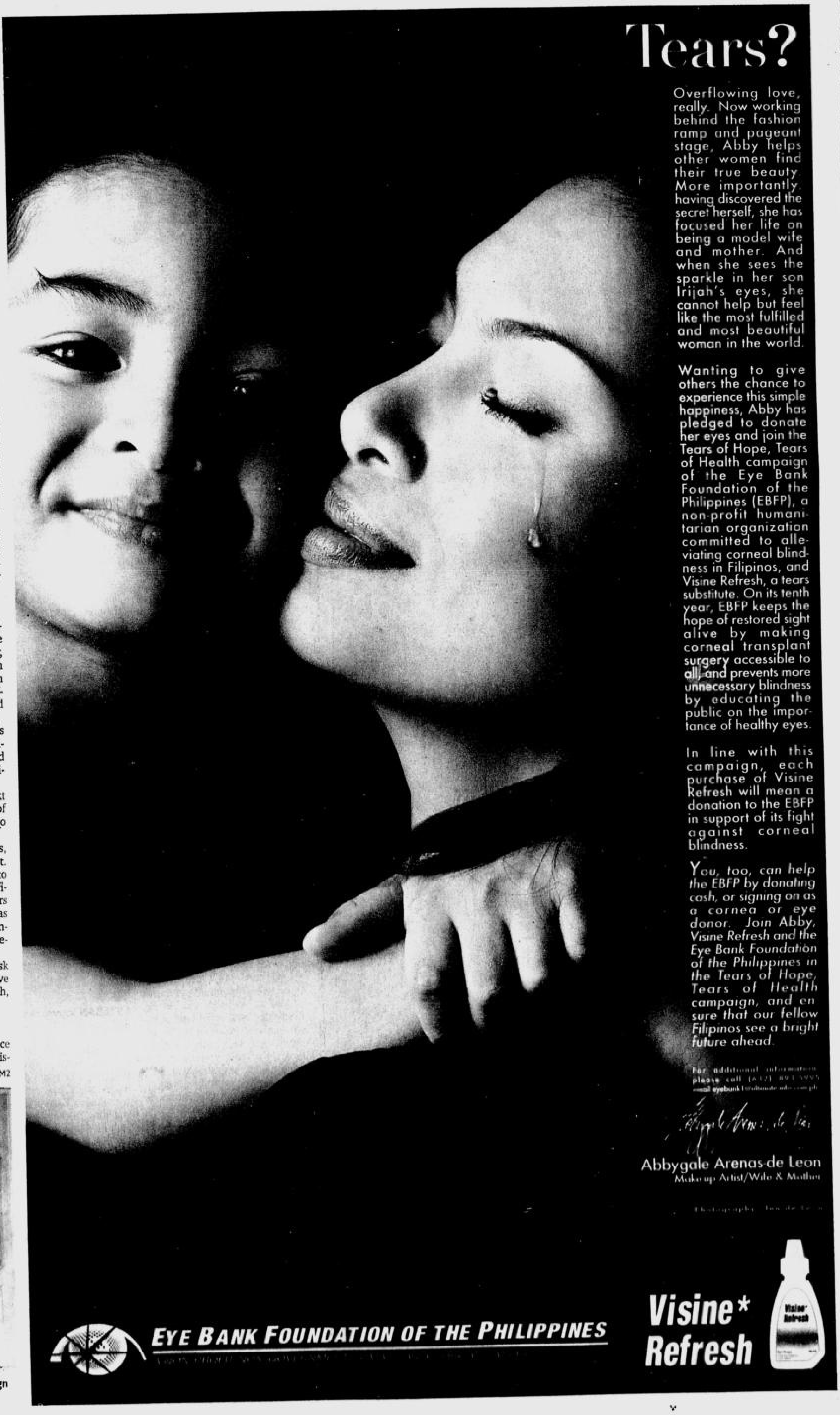
Chivalry

As the oldest Order of Chivalry in existence and the fourth oldest religious order in Chris-

KNIGHTS/ M2



BLESSED Gerard, founder of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta



Tears?

Overflowing love, really. Now working behind the fashion ramp and pageant stage, Abby helps other women find their true beauty. More importantly, having discovered the secret herself, she has focused her life on being a model wife and mother. And when she sees the sparkle in her son Irijah's eyes, she cannot help but feel like the most fulfilled and most beautiful woman in the world.

Wanting to give others the chance to experience this simple happiness, Abby has pledged to donate her eyes and join the Tears of Hope, Tears of Health campaign of the Eye Bank Foundation of the Philippines (EBFP), a non-profit humanitarian organization committed to alleviating corneal blindness in Filipinos, and Visine Refresh, a tears substitute. On its tenth year, EBFP keeps the hope of restored sight alive by making corneal transplant surgery accessible to all, and prevents more unnecessary blindness by educating the public on the importance of healthy eyes.

In line with this campaign, each purchase of Visine Refresh will mean a donation to the EBFP in support of its fight against corneal blindness.

You, too, can help the EBFP by donating cash, or signing on as a cornea or eye donor. Join Abby, Visine Refresh and the Eye Bank Foundation of the Philippines in the Tears of Hope, Tears of Health campaign, and ensure that our fellow Filipinos see a bright future ahead.

For additional information please call (632) [illegible] email eyebank[illegible]

Abbygale Arenas-de Leon
Make-up Artist/Wife & Mother

Photography [illegible]

EYE BANK FOUNDATION OF THE PHILIPPINES

Visine* Refresh

CRUSADER on his bike—Dr. Jaime Lapus

DAMES of the Order in Lourdes

A MEMBER of the ambulance corps of the Italian Association

Knights of faith and charity

INDIA feeding center

ORLANDO Bloom in "Kingdom of Heaven," a movie about the Crusades

From page M1

tendom, the Order of Malta has adapted to the times while remaining true to its purpose as a testimony to Christian faith in action.

Although the Order is based in Rome, National Associations of Knights have been created around the world, composed of dedicated members. Embassies of the Order in different parts of the globe have facilitated the distribution of charitable donations to areas where they are most needed.

These National Associations of Knights have been at the forefront of humanitarian work being done worldwide.

Today a majority of its members are from the lay faithful, who have been called to live their Christian faith in service of the less fortunate.

It continues its hospitaller tradition by remaining active in the development of services and programs that alleviate the plight of those impoverished in body as well as in spirit.

Modern crusade

The long tradition of faith and dedicated service to the infirm has been the primary motivation of the Philippine Association Sovereign Military Order of Malta (Pasmom) since its establishment in 1957.

It is focused on the upliftment of the plight of all sick indigents in the country, and members actively live their faith through their work with the sick.

Today Pasmom extends much-needed assistance to underprivileged Filipinos through many varied activities of its Hospitaller program. These activities are made possible through the generosity of the Order's members, auxiliaries and volunteers, who constantly raise funds.

Pasmom was closely involved in the development of programs to improve the welfare of leprosy patients here and eradicating the disease. It was instrumental in the establishment of the Tala Leprosarium in Caloocan City.

Today, it is working toward establishing similar programs for the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS.

Through sponsored medical missions and the Malta Medical Clinic at the Asilo San Vicente de Paul and St. Martin de Porres Hospital in San Juan, Metro Manila, Pasmom also provides free medical and inexpensive laboratory services to patients in Manila.

Medicines and medical supplies from local and international donors such as AmeriCares and the Meehan Family Foundation (through David Meehan, a Knight of the Order of Malta in the US), are channeled through the Philippine Association and redistributed to accredited hospitals and institutions supported by the Order.

Personal face

Pasmom's work does not consist only of providing financial or organizational assistance to partner institutions. Regular visitations to sick and elderly patients bring a personal face to its ministry.

Activities with patients and families of PGH Pedia-Onco Group, visitations with the elderly of Hogar San Joaquin and care for dying destitute people being ministered to by the Missionaries of Charity are ways by which Pasmom shows Christ's love to those most in need.

Pasmom pursues its quest to further Christ's work and grow in faith through prayer and the spiritual guidance of the Catholic Church. Its members are invested after rigorous spiritual formation, study of the Order's lore and by-laws, and most of all, adequate demonstration of their keen desire to take on its call to aid the poor and the sick.

Holistic school for kids

FOR OVER 40 years now, the Esteban International School (EIS) has engaged itself in the holistic development of children in their most sensitive, formative years, believing that it is in this crucial period that individuals acquire their passion—or aversion—for learning.

Its founder, early education pioneer Eleanor Powell Esteban, believes that given a nurturing environment and proper motivation, a child can grow up to be a lifelong learner, maintaining the natural curiosity that would allow him to find out more about himself and his world at any given age.

ART class at Esteban International School-Taguig

"The preschool and elementary levels form the foundation of how a person is likely to become," says Christine Esteban Norton, a second-generation educator and the preschool principal of Esteban International School. "This is the stage when an individual develops his values, his level of confidence and discipline, study habits, how he deals with others, the way he reasons out and articulates himself, the pace with which he develops certain skills."

At the Esteban International School, children as young as the 1-½ years olds are already introduced to the joys of education via specifically designed modules for tots. Aside from helping their pupils discover the three Rs, the Sprouts and Toddlers classes also guide kids in developing basic self-management skills like dressing themselves, washing their hands of packing away their toys.

With a healthy mix of Filipino and foreign students from Sprouts to Grade 7 attending its three well-appointed campuses in Makati, Alabang and Taguig, EIS prides itself on its crop of eager learners educated in the International Baccalaureate (IBO) Program of inquiry which emphasizes that learning should be relevant, experiential and enjoyable.

A member of the European Council of International Schools, EIS works closely with this accrediting organization to ensure that the highest international standards of education are maintained.

ESTEBAN International School Alabang accepts kids age 1-5 years old.
PHOTOS: MANDY NAVASERO

Summer Program for Carissa and Flame Tree Campuses are Kids Gymnastics and for Creative Movement (2 years old and up); Ballet for 3 years old and up; Taekwondo, Karate, Kids Football and Kids Hockey for 4 years old and up; Piano for 6 years old and up; Violin and guitar for 6 years old and up and Arts and Crafts for 7 years old and up.

Summer programs for Alabang Campus are: Enrichment Program for Toddlers, Nursery and JR/SR Kindergarten; Conversational Spanish for Children ages 2-12; and Art Workshop for Children ages 6-12.

Call The Flame Tree Campus in Taguig, 8449913/8449915; Carissa Campus in Makati, 8453971/8453961; Alabang Campus, 8079145/0917-819-9455, or e-mail mej@i-manila.com.ph.

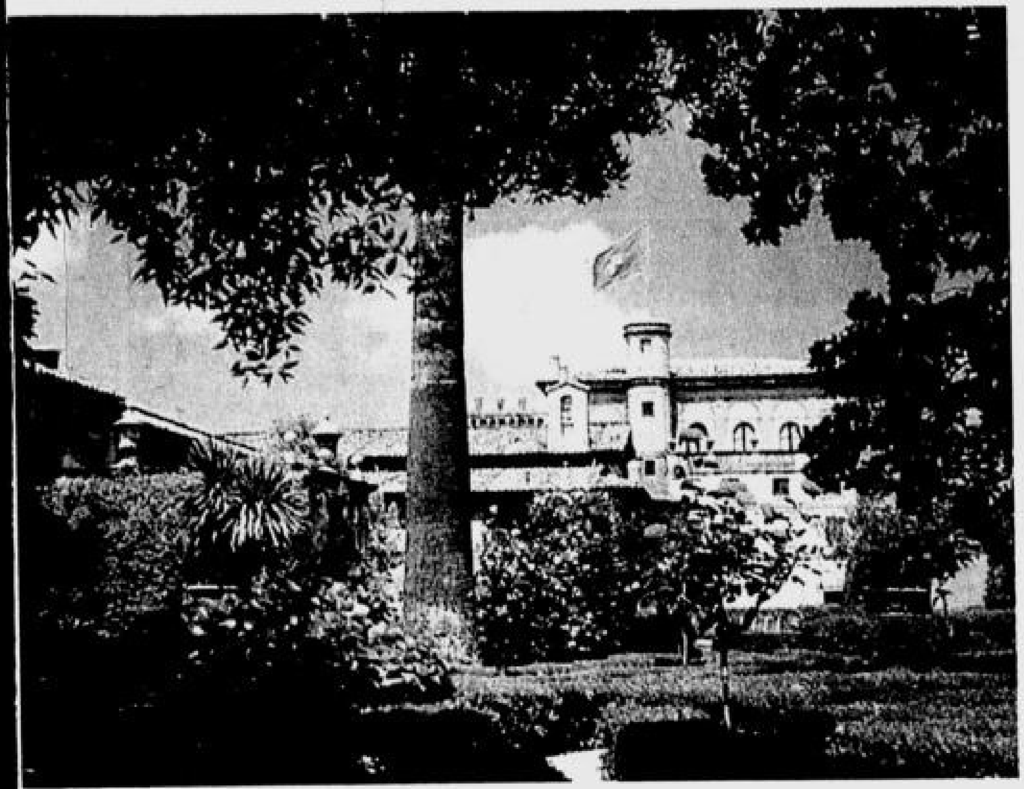
INTERESTING collection of books at Esteban International School

SCHOOL branch in Makati

THE FLAME Tree campus in Taguig

EDUCATORS ALL: Lena de Jesus Esteban, Eleanor Powell-Esteban and Cristine Esteban-Norton

GENERAL meeting of the Knights in Rome



VILLA Aventine Embassy of the Order to the Holy See

Filipino Dominicans elect new leader

FR. EDMUND C. Nantes, O.P., is the new Prior Provincial of the Dominican Province of the Philippines. He was elected recently at the Colegio de San Juan de Letran, Intramuros, Manila, by the 22 delegates of the 8th Provincial Chapter of the Order of Preachers in the Philippines. He succeeds Fr. Ernesto Arceo, O.P.

The Provincial Chapter happens every four years. It elects a new leader and formulates legislation that will guide the 200-strong Philippine Province in achieving its mission. The 22 delegates represented the various Philippine Dominican communities here and abroad.

The election has been confirmed by the Master of the Order, Very Rev. Fr. Carlos Azpiroz Costa, O.P.

"Our commitment to foster brotherhood among ourselves should lead us to pattern our lives after the disciples of Christ," said Nantes in accepting the election. "This renewal should serve as the creative force to enable us to embrace with courage the preferential option for the poor as a particular mark of all our schools, parishes, and other religious institutions. It is my prayer that our brotherhood may not allow us to turn ourselves merely into a social club or school fraternity and that the preferential option for the poor may not deteriorate into another overused and abused slogan. I humbly beg everyone to pray that God will make us faithful servants and preachers of the Good News."

The convents, houses and other communities of the Filipino Dominicans are located in Metro Manila, Manaoag-Pangasinan, Jaro-Iloilo, Legazpi City-Albay, Calamba-Laguna, Babuyanes Islands, General Santos City, Isabela, Kandy-Sri Lanka, and Africa.

Father Nantes was born in Sampaloc, Manila, on July 3, 1954. He studied at Letran-Manila, the Philippine Dominican Center of Institutional Studies in Sto. Domingo, Quezon City, and University of Santo Tomas, Manila.

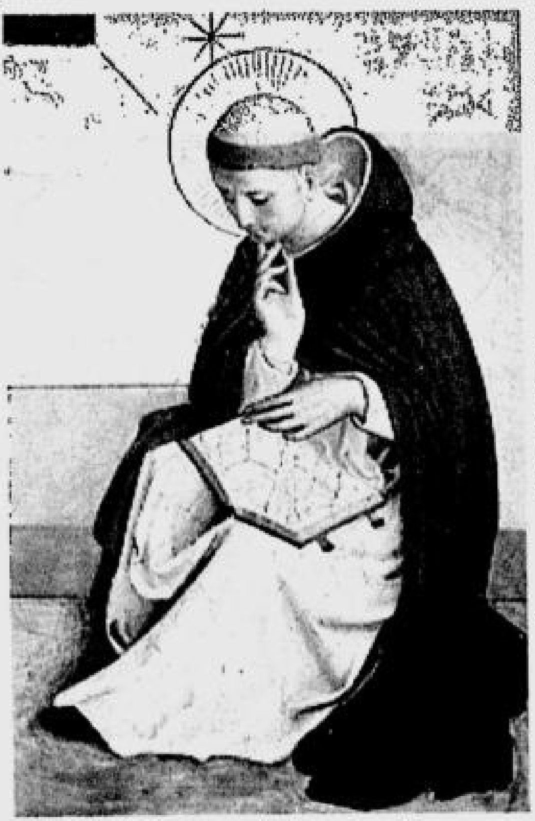
Before his election, he served as Syndic (Treasurer) of the Order at the world headquarters of the Order of Preachers at Sta. Sabina in Rome, Italy.

He also served as the Provincial Syndic of the Philippine Province, Master of Novices at the Dominican Novitiate of the Annunciation in Manaoag-Pangasinan, and chaplain of Our Lady of the Rosary of La Naval in Sto. Domingo Church, QC.

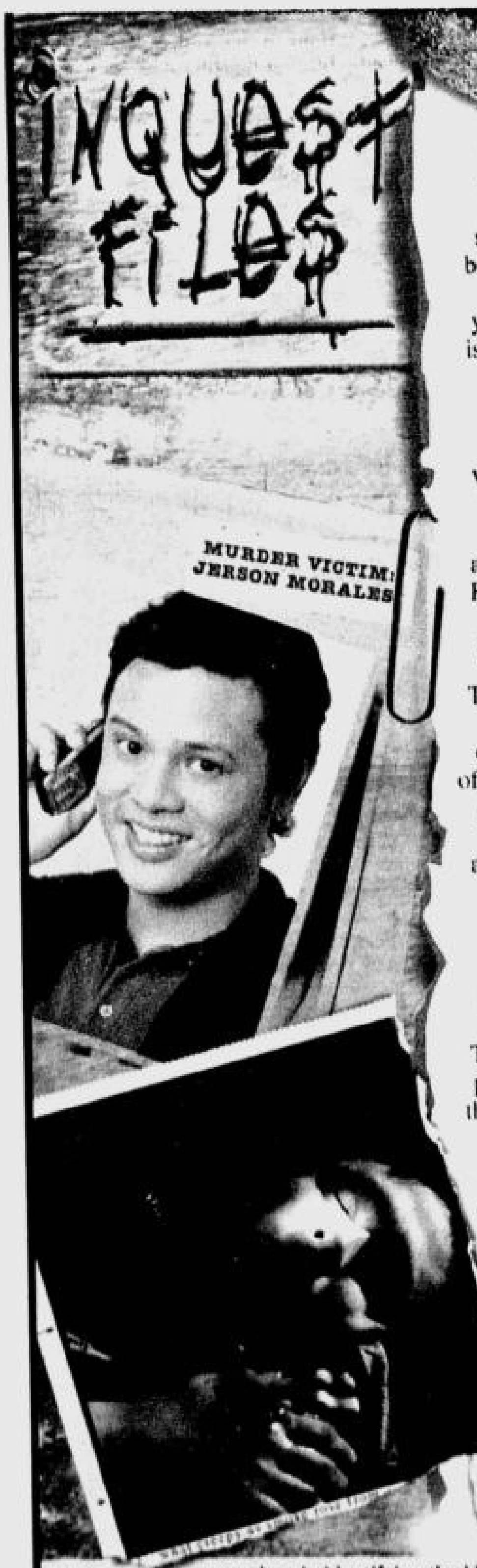
Father Nantes has a degree in Philosophy, a licentiate in Sacred Theology, and an MA in Higher Religious Studies. He is Ph.D candidate in Human Resources Management.

Father Nantes will hold office at the Bahay Dominiko of the Sto. Domingo Convent in Quezon City.

FR. EDMUND Nantes



ST. DOMINIC de Guzman by Beato Angelico



Chapter 12: In Too Deep

As you initially suspected, Cynthia and Gian are really lovers. Or should you say *simply* lovers? For a while there, you considered the possibility of them being blood-related. How else can you explain such closeness, such devotion? But then again, nothing is as strong as the bond formed by desire – and, if made even more intense by a salacious secret, it is enough to want to destroy anyone threatening its existence. Especially as you've heard that Eric Lucero, Cynthia's husband, who has much to lose face for, is not the type to take all of this sitting down. Maybe you can find more about him and determine if he's the reason why Cynthia and Gian would want to guard their affair with a gun – a .38 caliber pistol to be exact.

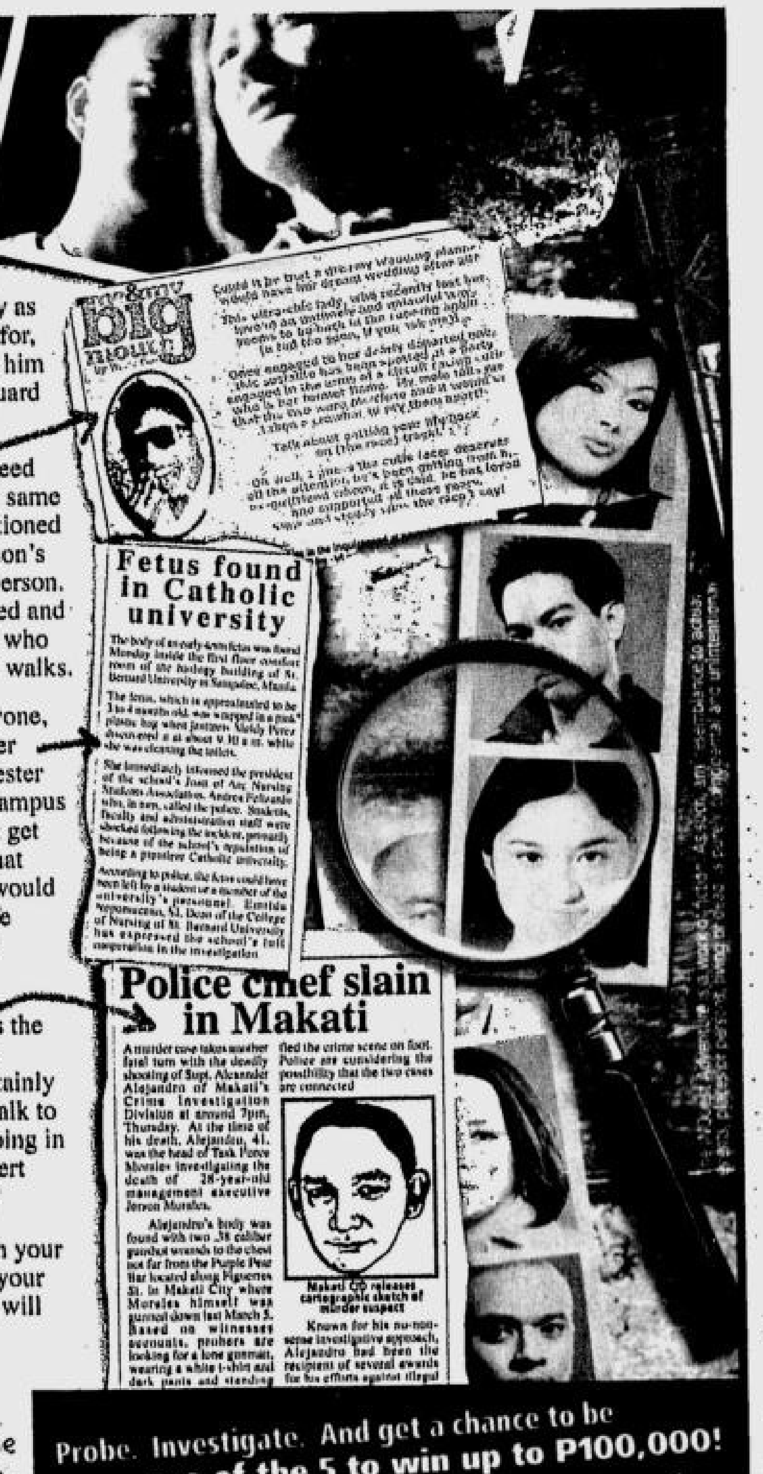
Your thoughts then shift to another seemingly scandalous liaison. It was indeed Vivienne and Barton that Saturday's blind item was referring to. Being at that same party that night, you yourself were a witness to this show of "affection" mentioned by the columnist and you think that maybe, just maybe, the discovery of Jerson's affair with Jeng had triggered these two ex-lovers to independently get rid of Jerson. For Barton, it may finally be a chance to defend the woman he has always loved and get her back; for Vivienne, it's probably an opportunity to eliminate the man who betrayed her so and return to the one who'd worship the ground on which she walks.

Then there's the report about the fetus found in St. Bernard University. To anyone, it looked like any ordinary news item but you know better. If you remember correctly, Jeng studies in that university and she's likely to be in the first trimester of her pregnancy. Plus, you know for a fact that not just anyone can enter the campus premises. You would know – you went there once to look for Jeng but didn't get past the gate. Truly, the coincidence is just too much! What are the odds that a woman who is connected to the same school and is 3 or 4 months pregnant would abort her baby? It dawned on you, if Jeng had the will to terminate the life of an innocent – her own flesh and blood – then she's capable of killing the man who has rejected her and abandoned her and her baby.

Finally, and most chilling of all, you think of the death of Supt. Alejandro. Is the killing of the head of Task Force Morales connected to Jerson's murder? The cartographic sketch reminded you of Pipo. If he's Jerson's killer, you certainly placed yourself in a precarious position when you went to the Purple Pear to talk to the security supervisor. Did he kill Alejandro because the police chief was zeroing in on him? Or did Cynthia order him to do it? Or did he kill Alejandro to avert suspicion to him after realizing that his daughter might be the murderer?

Startled, you dropped the Inquirer after reading this report. Could it be that in your quest to unearth the truth, you've dug yourself a hole that can very well be your grave? Picking up the newspaper, you resolve that you are in too deep and will not stop till you get to the bottom of this mystery.

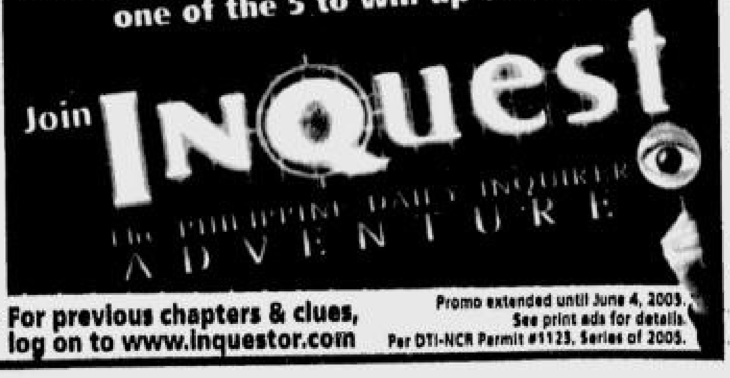
Still, you can't shake that creepy feeling. After all, it appears that the murderer is determined to cover up the crime by killing those who are getting too close to the truth. You shudder at the thought: could you be next?


big mouth
Fetus found in Catholic university
Police chief slain in Makati
Makati CID releases cartographic sketch of murder suspect

You're getting pretty close in identifying the killer! Keep reading the Inquirer for more clues: find out more about Cynthia's husband in the LIFESTYLE section on Tuesday, May 10. Then tune in to INQTV on Thursday, May 12 to watch the coverage of Jerson's funeral. On Sunday, May 15, browse through the PEOPLE AT WORK section in the JOB MARKET. Finally, watch out for pertinent details in the METRO section on Wednesday, May 18 and Friday, May 20. Don't forget to regularly visit the INQUESTOR website for any updates and developments on the case.

Your hot on the murderer's heels! Read the next chapter in the LIFESTYLE section of the Inquirer on Sunday, May 22, for the second to the last chapter of this mind-boggling mystery!

TO JOIN, REGISTER NOW FOR FREE! Text INQ Reg <full name>*<complete address>*<age>*<gender>. (Ex. INQ Reg Juan dela Cruz*1234 Ortigas Avenue Pasig*34*M). Send to 2320 for Globe/Touch Mobile and Sun Cellular subscribers or 309 for Smart/Addict/Talk 'N Text subscribers.


Probe. Investigate. And get a chance to be
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ADVENTURE

For previous chapters & clues, log on to www.inquestor.com

Promo extended until June 4, 2005.
See print ads for details.
Per DTI-NCR Permit #1123, Series of 2005.

Obando dance honors three saints

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

OBANDO, Bulacan is known for its traditional dance procession carrying the images of San Pascual Baylon (May 17), Santa Clara of Assisi (May 18) and *Nuestra Señora de Inmaculada Concepcion de Salambao* (May 19).

The procession starts at 9 a.m., going around town for three hours.

People fill the 251-year-old church dedicated to San Pascual Baylon on these three days seeking the intercession of San Pascual Baylon for a child, Santa Clara for a good husband or wife, and the *Virgen de Salambao* for good harvest, good business or good health.

Arnel San Diego who decorates *carrozas* for the procession said, when he was a child, he saw a couple dancing. Then they came with their child. The child is now a young man and comes with his family.

Comedienne Giselle Sanchez's prayer for a child has also been granted. The late Fr. Pascual Adorable, SJ, was born after three sisters and after his mother prayed to San Pascual Baylon for a son. Hence, the name.

Fr. Gerry Fortunato said people returned and danced again to give thanks for prayers answered.

Ramon Aguinaldo, chair of the worship committee, wrote down for us the lyrics of "Santa Clara Pinong-pinong," sang and danced to the tune of the *"fandanggo."*

The images of San Pascual and Santa Clara were brought by the Franciscans, but the image of the Virgen de Salambao was found by brothers Julian, 20, and Juan de la Cruz, 18, in 1793 inside their net (*salambao*). With them was their helper Diego de la Cruz.

The brothers were fishing in the river Holingdoong in barrio Binuangan, then part of Bayang Tambobong (now Malabon).

The image was brought to Diego's house in Obando. Two days later, Padre Jose Martinez de la Hinojosa brought the Virgin to the church of San Pascual Baylon.

A Franciscan

San Pascual Baylon belonged to the Franciscan order of the Barefoot Monks. A devotee of the Holy Eucharist, he was born in Spain in 1540 and died in 1592. His body is incorrupt and lies in the Real Chapel inaugurated by King Juan Carlos I in 1992, the 400th anniversary of his death.

OUR LADY of Fatima at the national shrine in Valenzuela, Bulacan

NUESTRA Señora Inmaculada Concepcion de Salambao intercedes for good harvest or good business.

SAN PASCUAL Baylon grants prayers of women who have difficulty conceiving.

Fatima feast

The feast of Our Lady of Fatima will be celebrated on May 13 at her national shrine in Valenzuela, Bulacan, with a series of liturgical activities and devotions. Bishop Jose Francisco Oliveros of the Diocese of Malolos will lead the Concelebrated High Mass at 4 p.m. The Diocesan Marian pilgrimage to the national shrine will be held on the same day.

The procession of the national pilgrim image of Our Lady of Fatima will follow after the High Mass. Other Masses on May 13 are at 5, 6, 7, and 9 a.m., and 6 p.m.

Jorge Allan Tengco, a devotee, will crown the national pilgrim image before the 6 p.m. Mass.

A Marian exhibit was opened May 4 at the Museo Valenzuela. Novena prayers are being held until May 12.

Msgr. Moises B. Andrade, Jr., a known liturgist and linguist, is parish priest and rector of the shrine. Knights of Columbus Council 6185 is the *hermano mayor* this year. They spearheaded the repainting of the church.

For details, call 2915609.

Pilgrimage

Southeast Travel is organizing a pilgrimage to Our Lady of Caysasay in Taal, Batangas on May 21; then the Basilica de San Martin de Tours, the biggest Basilica in Asia where Our Lady of Caysasay is brought during the week.

The group will also visit the Carmelite Monastery in Lipa where the Virgin appeared to the postulant Teresing Castillo in 1948. Final stop is the San Sebastian Cathedral which is marking its 400th year. Meeting place is the Aloha Hotel on Roxas Boulevard at 7 a.m., May 21. Call 5245676.

Marikina feast

Marikina will celebrate the feast of its patroness, the miraculous Our Lady of the Abandoned, on May 12 with a High Mass at 8 a.m. to be celebrated by Antipolo Bishop Gabriel Reyes. The *lerion* dance will be held after the Mass in front of the Virgin's *carroza*. Simeona Changyungco taught the dance.

Hermanos mayores this year are Corazon and Conrado Justo, Jr., while *hermanos menores* are Rodelio San Miguel and Irmina San Miguel, owners of *Kusina ni Kambal*. Chair of the *comite de festejos* is Luchie Dy.

Marikina parish priest Msgr. Arnel F. Lagarejos and Mayor Maridel Fernando will lead the celebration. The fiesta Mass at 6 p.m. will be followed by the procession.

Those who want *estampitas* can write to me. Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Charismatic renewal

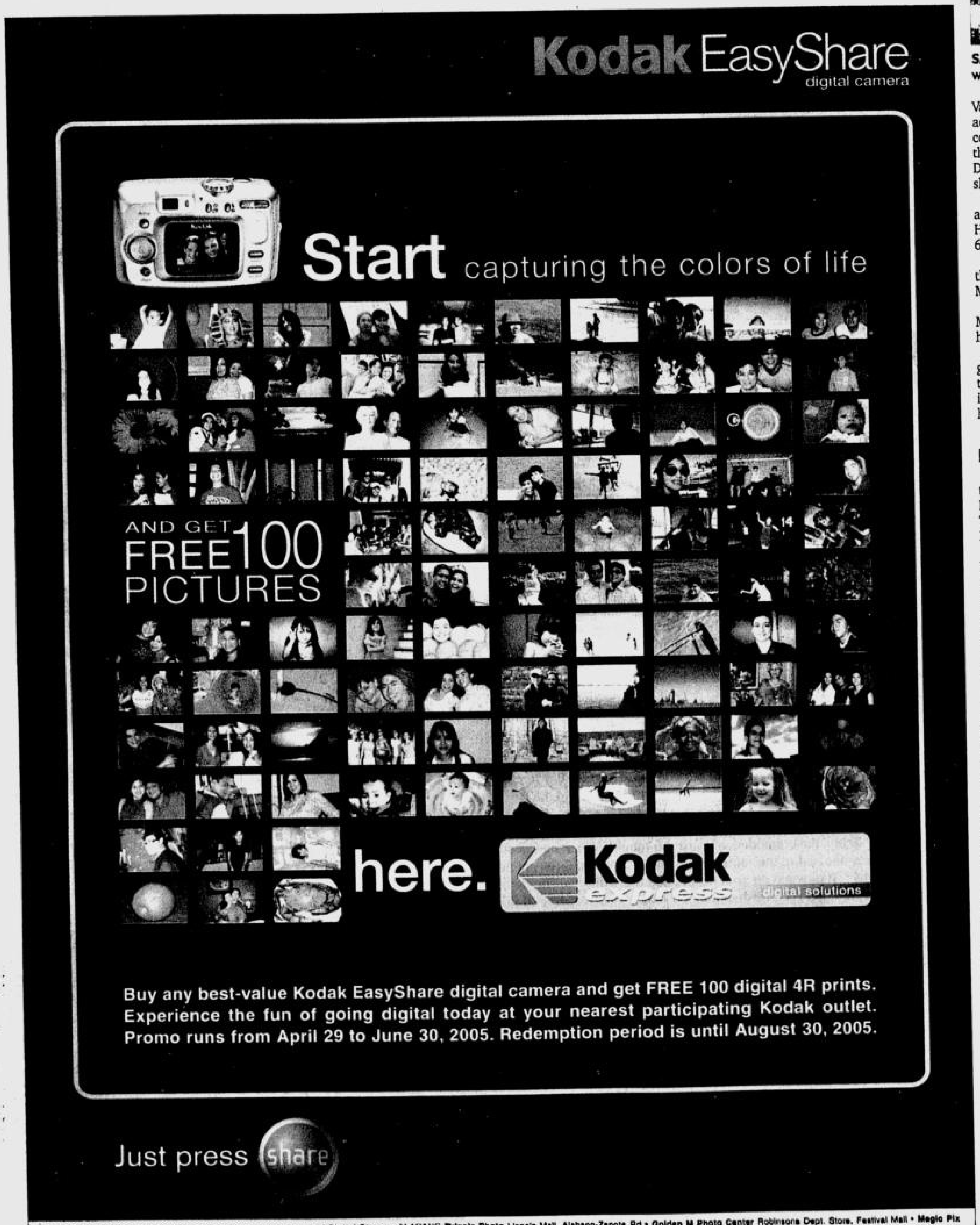
The Diocese of San Pablo will hold Charismatic Renewal Masses in Sts. Peter & Paul Parish, San Pedro, Laguna, 6 p.m, May 6; St. John the Baptist Parish, Calamba, 6 p.m., May 9; and St. Francis de Assisi Church, San Pablo, 6 p.m., May 11.

San Pablo Colleges will hold Post Pentecostal Healing Explosion 8 a.m.-5 p.m., May 28. Spearheading the event is Fr. Diwane Cacao, together with the San Pablo Diocesan clergy like Fr. Albert San Jose, Msgr. Mar Castillo and Fr. John Tabot. Rita Eala is president of the San Pablo Charismatic board.

Goodbye

Everybody called her "Tita Alice." Those who knew her remembered how they were lifted up in faith when difficult situations overwhelmed them. She would tell me to pray to the Sacred Heart and say "Lord you are God, you can do it. You can help me."

Alice Padlan of Arpex Travel passed away recently and was cremated and buried after a Mass at the Holy Cross Church concelebrated by priests who knew her. I will always remember her because her generosity enabled me to go to the Holy Land in 1999. We walked where Jesus walked and grew in faith.



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Per DTI-NCR Permit No.1032, Series of 2005.

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First and foremost, a mother

Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year awardee and National Bookstore founder Socorro 'Nanay Coring' Ramos

By Joel V. Nigos

Walking with God
The Mommy Book and Daddy
ART & FORM

WITH the merchandise she loves to sell

SHE MAY not have realized how far her efforts would help so many, because for Socorro Ramos, founder and general manager of National Bookstore, all she wanted was to be a mother to her children — to take care of them and to provide for all their needs.

Deprived of a college education because her parents were too poor to send her to school, Nanay Coring, as she is fondly called, didn't want her children to suffer the same fate. She wanted them to study in the best school she could afford. And the only way she knew she would be able to do this was by selling books — a knowledge she gained when she worked as a salesgirl in Goodwill Bookstore, a book retailing shop owned by her elder brother and his wife.

With her husband, Jose Ramos, she opened the first National Bookstore in Escolta. It had such humble beginnings no one would have ever imagined it would survive to this day. But her hard work, perseverance, patience and her willingness to try out her ideas and take risks brought her this far — to 72 NBS branches nationwide and still counting. Her twin sons Alfred and Benjamin and only daughter Cecile, up to her grandchildren, are actively involved in the business.

Just recently she was the recipient of the Ernst and Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award, a prestigious recognition considered the business equivalent of the Oscars.

Her story

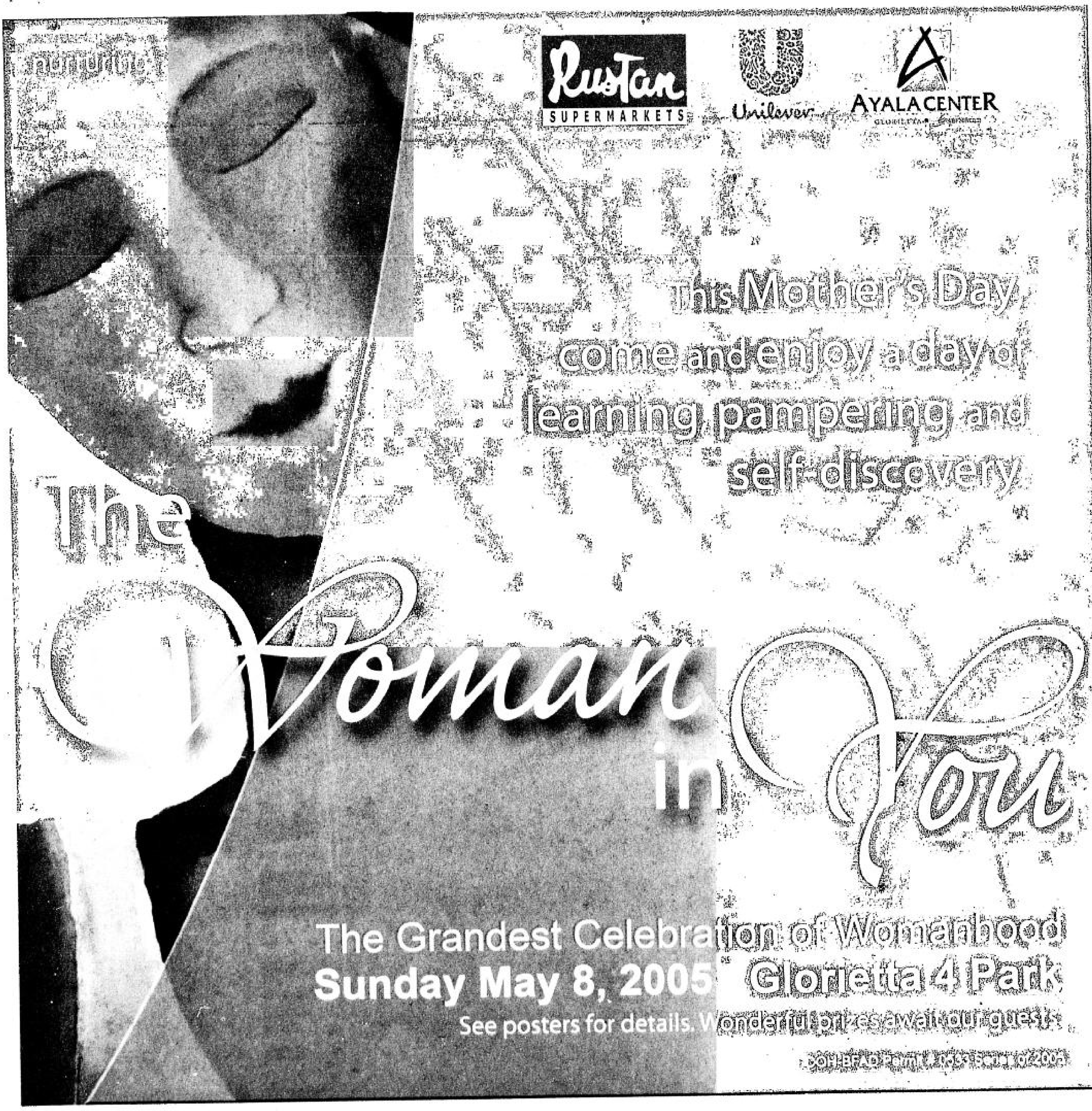
"As a parent, what I just wanted really was to send my children to school," Nanay Coring began her story. "What I knew I could only do was to sell since I didn't finish college. *At dahil natuto naman ako noong nagtrabaho ako sa* Goodwill *kaya sabi ko magbebenta na lang ako ng mga libro. Kaya dun nagsimula ang* National."

As she started her business, Nanay Coring also pondered on the plight of other parents in the same boat as hers.

"I knew there were a lot of parents who wanted to provide their children the best education, but didn't have the resources. *Kaya sabi ko dapat yung tinda ko mababa lang ang presyo. Kahit maliit lang ang tubo.*" She believes this philosophy might have sustained National through the years.

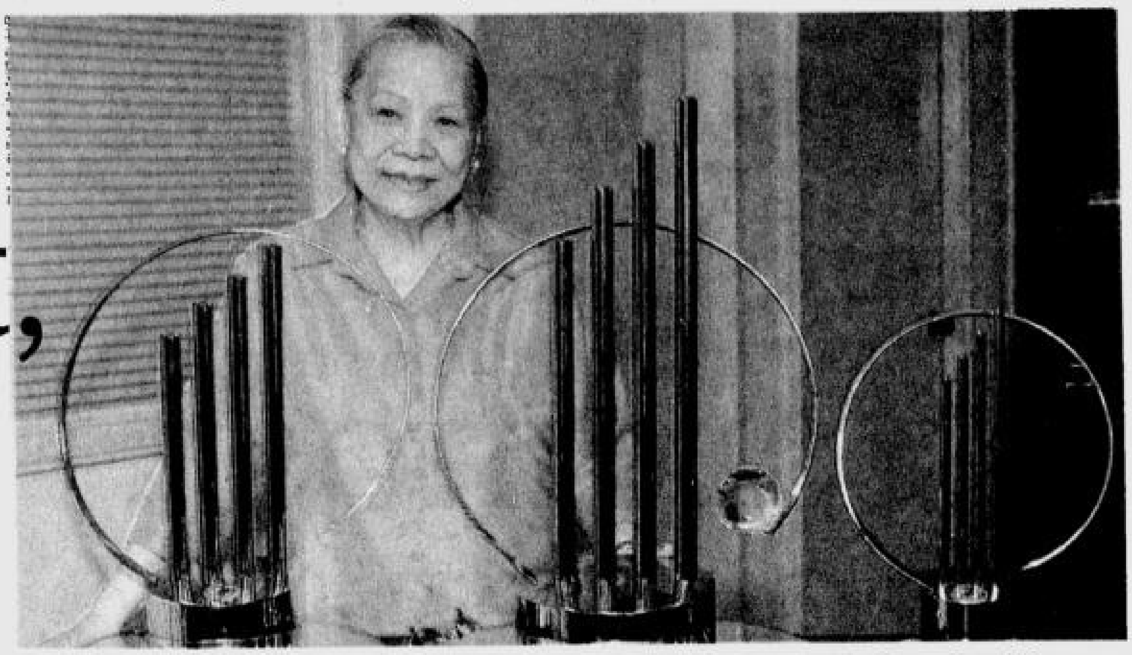
"*Nababayaran ko yung suweldo ng mga tao,* rental, *kuryente, may pagkain kami sa aming hapag at na-*

FIRST/ N2


nurturing
Rustan SUPERMARKETS
Unilever
AYALA CENTER
This Mother's Day, come and enjoy a day of learning, pampering and self-discovery
The Woman in You
The Grandest Celebration of Womanhood
Sunday May 8, 2005 Glorietta 4 Park
See posters for details. Wonderful prizes await our guests.
DOH-BFAD Permit # 0-93 Series of 2005

First and foremost, a mother

From page N1



NANAY Coring with her trophies (from left) as Ernst & Young Woman Entrepreneur of the Year, as Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year for the Philippines, and as one of the 17 finalists. She'll represent the Philippines later this month in the World Entrepreneur of the Year Awards in Monaco. Jollibee's Tony Tan Caktiong won the award last year, considered the business equivalent of the Oscars.

pag-aral ko yung mga anak ko, that's good enough for me." She says she still applies the same business principle today.

Challenges

It wasn't always smooth sailing for the bookstore. As Nanay Coring remembers, the business survived various challenges, both manmade and natural.

She still vividly remembers when they were starting up at their small stall at Escolta Bridge when the occupying Japanese authorities censored all the books they were selling.

"They were cutting all the books. They were removing all the pages that contained everything about the United States or democracy. We couldn't do anything about it. They were in power. So we just decided to keep all the books and stop selling. But we had to think of ways to survive, so we began selling paper pads, ball pens and slippers.

"Mabiling mabili ng tsinelas sa mga sundalo kaya tuwang tuwa naman ako."

Things, however, didn't turn out too well at once after the American liberation.

"Barung-barong lang ang tindahan namin. Nang bumagyo, tinangay yung bubong namin. Basa lahat ng tinda naming libro. Kaya simula na naman kami sa umpisa."

A few decades later, President Marcos' import control during Martial Law, which included textbooks, also affected her business.

"*Isip na naman ako.* What I did was I convinced publishing giants such as McGraw Hill, Prentice Hall and Addison-Wesley to allow us to reprint their textbooks in newsprint so they would become more affordable to Filipinos. So I was able to sell the same academic books but at reduced prices, from 50 to 70 percent down from its original price. My business continued and I was able to help the students and the parents as well."

She then tells of a humorous story of how she got the license to distribute Hallmark greeting cards 30 years ago.

"The American representative asked me where my project study (for Hallmark) was. I asked him back, 'What is a project study?' He made some drawings then explained and told me 'That's the project study.' I just laughed. Eventually, they gave me the license."

A mother first

Even when National Book Store was still struggling, Nanay Coring managed to find time to be a mother to her children.

"When they got home from school, I was a doting mother to my children. Of course, I let them eat *merienda* first then I checked their notebooks. I asked if they had assignments and I helped them go through it. I always taught them. During semestral tests, I made review questions to prepare them," she enumerates.

"I would advise my children and grandchildren from time to time. I tell them the importance of money, how difficult it is to earn and that they should spend wisely. Of course, I also shared with them some selling tips.

"I like selling. I tell them that when someone is looking for a gift wrapper, offer also Scotch tape and gift tag. That way, they would be able to sell more. I also tell them that they should treat our customers like kings, and that they should be humble."

'Nanay' to everyone

Nanay Coring could no longer remember when her employees began calling her *nanay,* but she could recall that her children would still call her *nanay* even when they were no longer at home.

"Maybe my employees just followed my children calling me *nanay. Siguro dala-dala ko rin sa negosyo yung pagiging nanay ko.* I think it also speaks of the kind of relationship that I have with my employees, *hindi* high-brow. *Pag nagkakamali sila, 'di ko sila pinapagalitan, tinuturuan ko sila.*"

For this, Nanay Coring has

FIRST/N3

> Even when National Book Store was still struggling, Nanay Coring managed to find time to be a mother to her children.

Scents for moms

MOMS will definitely be pleased this Mother's Day as Vernel Fabric Softener introduces its three mood-enhancing scents. Vernel values all nurturing moms who express their love and care for their family by using only the best laundry products for their clothes.

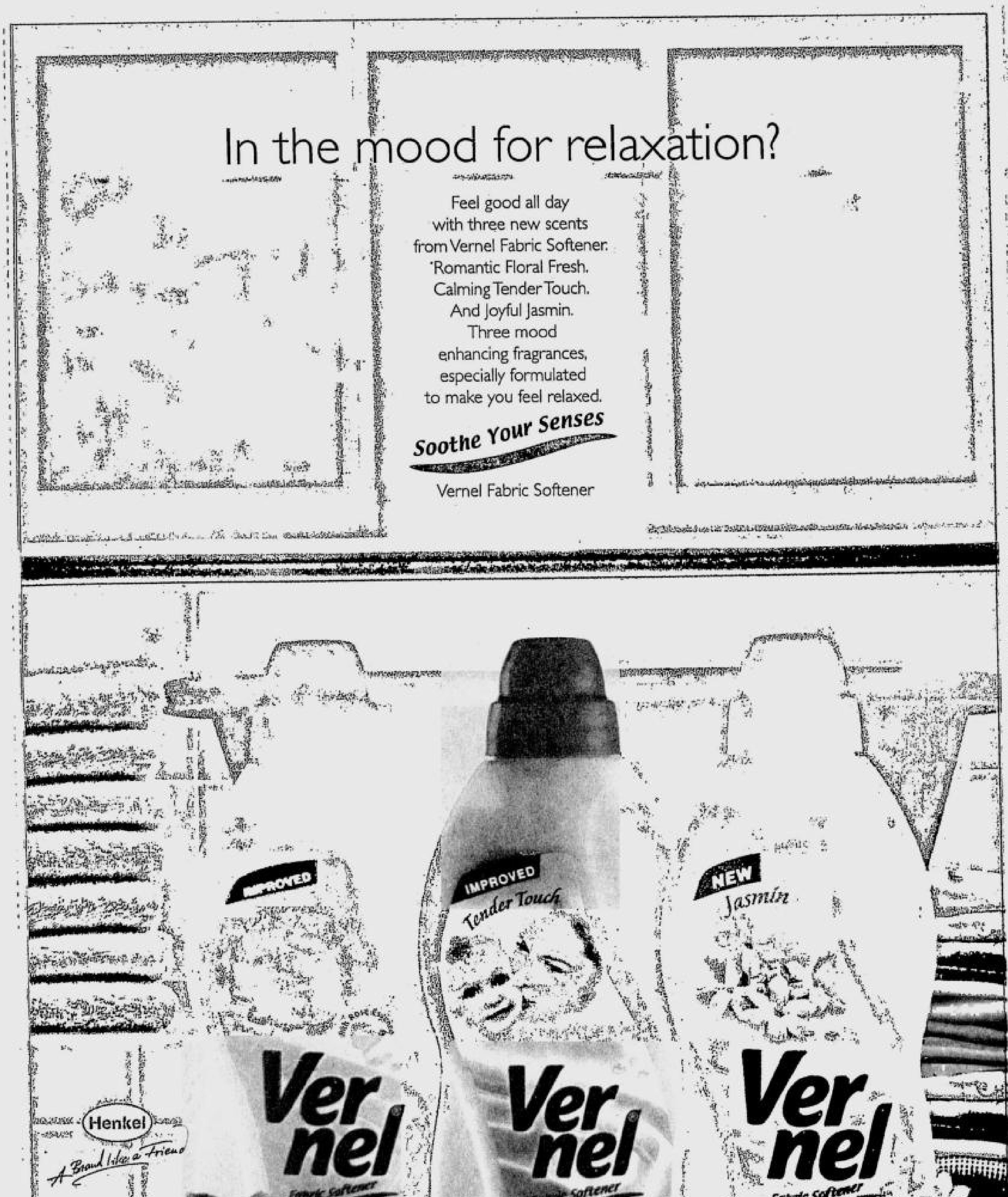
All moms can choose from the romantic fragrance of Floral Fresh, the relaxing smell of Tender Touch, and joyful scent of Jasmin so she can also be happy and refreshed even while doing her laundry.

Vernel Fabric Softener has long lasting scents that leave the whole family's clothes, linens and other fabrics smelling wonderfully fragrant.

Its unique formulation instantly gives the garments a soft, natural feel- with no static cling. Its liquid easily disperses in water, which makes the scent seep in quickly in fabrics to give a long-lasting scent on all your laundry items. Vernel is economical, too. Its bottle cap doubles as a measuring cup, so you can be sure nothing goes to waste.

All of the three variants of Vernel Fabric Softener are now in new exciting modern translucent bottles (500ml, 1L, 2L and 1 Gallon) and colorful sachets (35ml).

So, for moms who want to pamper themselves, use Vernel Fabric Softener. Because only Vernel provides the spa-like experience for moms who want to relax and enjoy their laundry at home. Vernel Fabric Softener. Soothe your senses.


In the mood for relaxation?

Feel good all day
with three new scents
from Vernel Fabric Softener.
Romantic Floral Fresh.
Calming Tender Touch.
And Joyful Jasmin.
Three mood
enhancing fragrances,
especially formulated
to make you feel relaxed.

Soothe Your Senses
Vernel Fabric Softener

First and foremost, a mother

From page N2

been rewarded with loyalty from her employees. About a quarter of them have now rendered more than 20 years of service, and the turnover rate is low.

Ernst & Young awardee

As the latest recipient of the Ernst and Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award (she followed the footsteps of Jollibee Corp's Tony Tan Caktiong, who eventually took home the World Entrepreneur of the Year Award in Monaco last year), she says her winning was clearly a surprise for her, considering that she was up against younger and more aggressive professionals schooled here and abroad.

All Nanay Coring thinks about right now is her free trip to Monaco to represent the Philippines at the end of the month. Though she thinks that it would be a long shot for another Filipino to win the World Entrepreneur award this year, it would be a blessing from God if she ever did take home the bacon.

On Mother's Day

Nanay Coring is thankful she has been able to keep her family intact. On Mother's Day, she says she's open to whatever gift her loved ones would give her.

"*Kung may magreregalo sa akin sana pera na lang,*" she laughs. "*Matanda na ako. Kung pera, mabibili ko yung gusto ko.* I'm just being practical.

"But they usually give me flowers, and I really appreciate it."

Would she welcome a book as a gift? "*Bakit hindi? Basta ba binili nila sa* National," she laughs.

At 82, Nanay Coring doesn't show any signs of weariness. She still keeps an 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. work schedule at National six days a week, and sometimes even longer when needed. She still changes broken bulbs in the ceiling, drinks Coke and eats pastries. And she doesn't take any maintenance medicine.

Asked her secret to long life, she reveals, "*Kumain nang kumain.*"

With that, she may also mean nourishment beyond the physical. Which probably explains her perfect state of health.

National
Book Store

SHE'S funny, witty and has business savvy. At 82 she still changes a broken bulb, drinks Coke and eats pastries and doesn't take any maintenance medicine.

Johnson's baby lotion
Johnson's baby powder
Johnson's baby milk bath

Ngayon, ikaw naman ang mag-regalo kay Mommy!

Send your Mom an electronic greeting card and get a chance to win a limited edition Johnson's baby Gift Pack!

Follow these easy steps:

1. Text **johnsonsbaby** to 2366. (P2.50/text)
2. Choose which greeting card you want to send your Mom.

   (a. Big Hug b. Big Kiss)

A BIG HUG!
Johnson's baby

A BIG KISS!
Johnson's baby

3. Reply with <letter of choice> <recipient's cellphone no.> <your name, address>

   Each greeting card costs P15. One card is equivalent to one entry.
4. Lucky gift pack promo winners will be notified via registered mail and will receive a call from ABS-CBN Interactive no later than May 18, 2005.

A 0911234567
Marie Ancheta, 9th
Flr, ElJ Comm
Center, Quezon City

Sample text entry

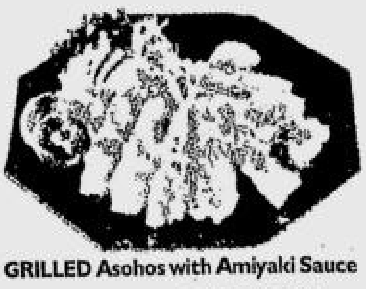
O, magsend na rin para kay Lola at Tita, hanggang May 15, 2005 lang ito!

Promo period is from May 5-15, 2005 • Promo is open to Metro Manila residents and to Globe and Sun subscribers only. • Maximum of nine (9) entries per texter. • Per DOH-BFAD#0528, Series of 2005

Ngayong Mother's Day Inay,
ikaw naman ang baby ko.

Ngayong araw ng mga Ina, hayaan mong pasayahin kita. Patawanin. Sorpresahin. Lambingin. Simula pagkabata, ikaw na ang laging nagbibigay. *Kaya ngayon 'Nay, ako naman.*

Happy Mother's Day
mula sa
Johnson & Johnson



GRILLED Asohos with Amiyaki Sauce

MIXED Seafood Teppanyaki

A Japanese feast for a special day

FOR THE proposition that no mom shall cook on Mother's Day, the best place to treat her is at Nippon Japanese Restaurant. Mom's Japanese feast can start with an appetizer of salmon sashimi, pink-fleshed fresh salmon that melts in the mouth.

Then, follow this up with a varied selection, like kisu amiyaki, delicate asohos with amiyaki sauce; tofu mushroom, which is a dish of deep fried tofu with four kinds of mushrooms; Mixed Seafood Teppanyaki; Chahan, or Japanese fried rice, not to forget their Gyuhire Tataki, medium rare beef with special sauce.

Isn't this a great meal for our great mom who only deserves the best? What's more, Nippon Restaurant offers you authentic Japanese food at affordable prices with a mother's day surprise.

Nippon Japanese Restaurant is open daily (Monday to Saturday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., 6 to 11 p.m.; Sundays 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., 5:30 to 10:30 p.m.), Nippon Japanese Restaurant is at the 2nd level of the Forum Building, T. Morato corner Scout Limbaga Street, Quezon City. For reservations and more information, call 927-0649.

Show mom your love with Globe International Services

REMEMBER the time when you fell down and wounded your knee while playing? Mother was there to hug you and make it better. She was also there to see you off on your first day of school, reassuring you with a warm embrace and encouraging smile. She shared your triumphs, trials, frustrations, and follies. Played wacky games with you on family vacations. Even forgave you with a loving kiss and dried your tears when you broke her favorite heirloom plate.

Now that she has gone abroad, don't you just miss her terribly? This Mother's Day, you wish you could be with her, hear her voice and tell her how much you love her. With Globe International Services, you can easily get in touch with mom on Mother's Day. Call her through Globe IDD for only 40 US cents per minute anytime, wherever in the world she may be, and share all the latest news about the family. Text her heartwarming greetings with International SMS, for only P10 per message for G-Plan subscribers and P15 for Globe prepaid users. With International MMS, you can also send her photos (P20) and videos (P40) of the latest memorable moments in your life that you wish she had been a part of. Globe's reliable mobile communication services and affordable rates make great things possible this Mother's Day, affirming and strengthening your priceless bond with Mom.

Let your mom feel just how special she is to you. Globe International Services connects to more people-and mothers-abroad, so you can send her your love even though you are miles apart.

Globe International Services
40¢IDD • TEXT • MMS

YOU BROKE her favorite plate, but her love for you remains steadfast. A mother's forgiving love makes great things possible. Reach out to her this Mother's Day with Globe International Services.

The ultimate Happy Mother's Day Buffet

OUR MOTHERS leave us with many treasured memories, the warmth of their embrace, their loving smiles and kind words. There is one memory that persists where others may fade. And that is the memory of mom's cooking.

This mother's day, grab the chance to create new memories with mom. Treat her to a feast she won't forget at Dads, Kamayan, and Saisaki, and celebrate a Mother's Day to cherish.

No need to immigrate to partake of the riches of the land of opportunity. Dads' "Ultimate Buffet" serves us the best of the good old US of A with "Amerigo 2: Dads American Festival". From sea to shining sea, it's a red, white, and blue smorgasbord of good eats fit for, a rodeo, backyard barbeque, Superbowl party, or Thanksgiving dinner.

In Japan, the summer is a time to partake of the sea's riches. Scrumptious shellfish and succulent eel dishes sizzle and entice in Saisaki's "Unagi and Kairui Festival". There is also a full selection of eel and shellfish dishes broiled the Yakimono way, while the Sushi bar features a smorgasbord of Unagi and Kairui Sushi. This one-of-a-kind festival of seafood definitely ensures a wet, hot summer feast at Saisaki.

May is the month of summer showers, Santacruzans, and fiestas! That can only mean non-stop revelries and gut-busting party fare. And the grandest fiesta buffet of all can be found at Kamayan. It's "Piyesta Na!" at the first and original fine dining Filipino restaurant. Your sweet tooth is sure to be satisfied by its lineup of traditional desserts that includes native fruits, halo-halo, and fun delicacies like Palitaw. Come to Kamayan this May and you can enjoy a fiesta everyday.

Dads' "Ultimate Buffet" is the most value for money buffet selection for it also offers Kamayan and Saisaki buffets for only P495 and at P395 during promo days. As always, Dads brings the world's best dishes to the country's best buffet.

For reservations and inquiries, call 531-6101 or 531-7292.

Top quality oral care for the budget conscious moms

FILIPINO mothers are naturally gifted in stretching the budget to meet family needs. Amidst the rising costs of living, [illegible] vegetables, branded clothing is substituted with ukay-ukay and the family settles for less-known appliance brands. But not all cost-cutting should involve sacrificing quality. Take for example oral care. Mothers' affordable oral care is possible.

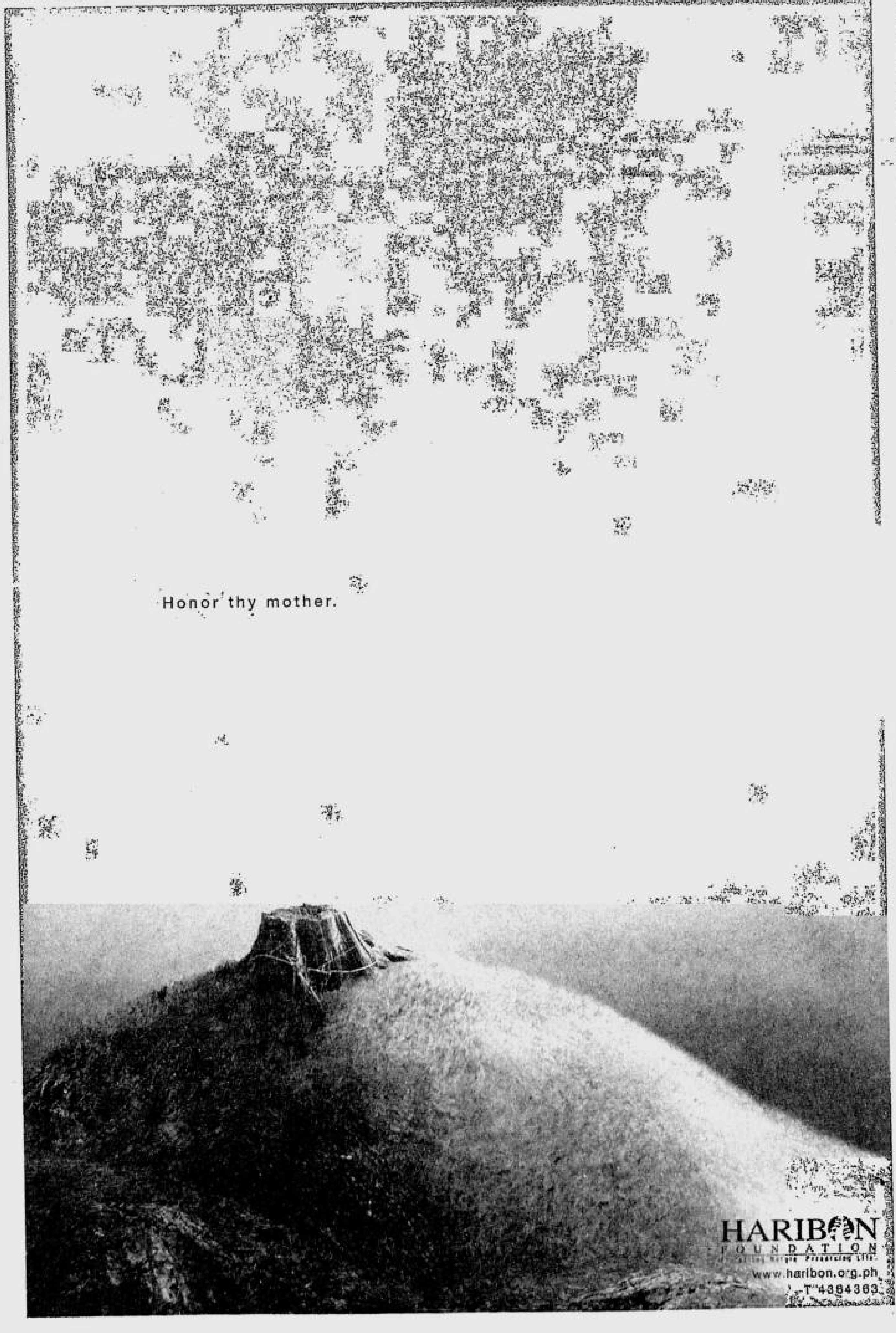
Keep in mind that a complete, healthy set of teeth and gums is one of the best gifts you can give to your child, and it's a lifelong gift. Early on, discipline your child to avoid junk food and soft drinks, which pose a great risk to his or her teeth. While you save money from buying these unhealthy food, more importantly you save your child from developing tooth decay. Instead, train his or her palate to prefer fruits and vegetables, a much healthier alternative you can easily buy in the public market.

Likewise, you can start training your child to brush his or her teeth by the age of 2. The earlier he develops a brushing habit, the better he can have a good set of teeth to avoid costly dental procedures later in life. When it comes to choosing toothpastes, mothers can [illegible] because Hapee offers more affordable but top quality choices.

Since it launched its first toothpaste 17 years ago, Filipino-owned Lamoiyan Corp, maker of Hapee, has been committed to providing Filipino families the same maximum fluoride protection and superior oral care one gets from expensive foreign brands. Its line of original white, green and red gels and flavored toothpastes for kids assures mothers a wide selection to fit each family member's liking at about 20 percent less expensive than other leading brands.

Moreover, mothers will be pleased that Hapee, although easy on the pocket, is produced with world-class quality. Hapee is professionally recommended by the Philippine Dental Association (PDA), the foremost dental organization in the country. It's the first and only Filipino brand to earn the PDA's seal of approval, which is only given to toothpastes that dentists can trust to help their patients keep a healthy set of teeth and gums.

[illegible], mothers can use the savings from regularly using Hapee toothpaste to buy new toothbrushes. Dentists recommend replacing your toothbrush every six months to ensure maximum cleaning performance. Also, keep in mind that prevention is cheaper in the long run. To avoid costly dental procedures such as extractions, fillings and root canals in the future, it is best to visit the dentist every six months. At a minimum, so you ensure your child is on his way to developing a healthy set of teeth and gums that he or she can always smile about.



Healthy cooking: Vetsin or no vetsin?

WE OFTEN hear of the many scares of food additives on our diet these days that we are really confused if vetsin, otherwise known as MSG, is a bane or boon in our daily cooking. Can we do without vetsin or do we continue using it to add flavor to our food?

Eating is one of life's pleasures. Taste and flavor are important to enjoying food. Glutamate is one of the major food components that provide flavor. Glutamate is an amino acid, found in all protein-containing foods. This amino acid is one of the most abundant and important components of proteins. Glutamate occurs naturally in protein-containing foods such as cheese, milk, mushroom, meat, fish, and many vegetables. Glutamate is also produced by the human body and is vital for metabolism and brain function.

Monosodium glutamate or MSG is the sodium salt of glutamate. When MSG is added to foods, it provides a similar flavoring function as the glutamate that occurs naturally in food. MSG is comprised of nothing more than water, sodium, and glutamate.

MSG is a flavor enhancer that has been used effectively to bring out the best taste in foods, emphasizing natural flavors. Many researchers also believe that MSG imparts a fifth taste, apart from the four basic tastes of sweet, sour, salty and bitter. This taste, called umami in Japan, is described by the Americans as savory.

The human body treats glutamate that is added to foods in the form of MSG the same as the natural glutamate found in food. For instance, the body does not distinguish between free glutamate from tomatoes, cheese and mushrooms and the glutamate from MSG added to foods. Glutamate is glutamate, whether naturally present or from MSG.

As a general guideline for use, about half a teaspoon of MSG added to a half-kilogram of meat or 4 to 6 servings of vegetables should be sufficient. The average person consumes about 11 grams of glutamate per day from natural protein sources and less than 1 gram of glutamate per day from MSG. In contrast, the human body creates about 50 grams of glutamate daily for use as a vital component of metabolism.

Contrary to popular belief, MSG contains only a third the amount of sodium as table salt (13 percent vs 40 percent) and is used in much smaller amounts.

Now, for the question, is MSG safe? Numerous international scientific evaluations have been undertaken over many years, involving hundreds of studies. According to the International Food Information Council Foundation (Ific), MSG does not pose a health risk for the general population.

For more information on food and nutrition, write or call The Director, Food and Nutrition Research Institute, Department of Science and Technology, General Santos Avenue, Bicutan, Taguig City. Call or fax 837-2934, 837-3164; e-mail mvc@fnri.dost.gov.ph; or log on to the FNRI-DOST website at www.fnri.dost.gov.ph.

Celebrate Mother's Day at Teriyaki Boy

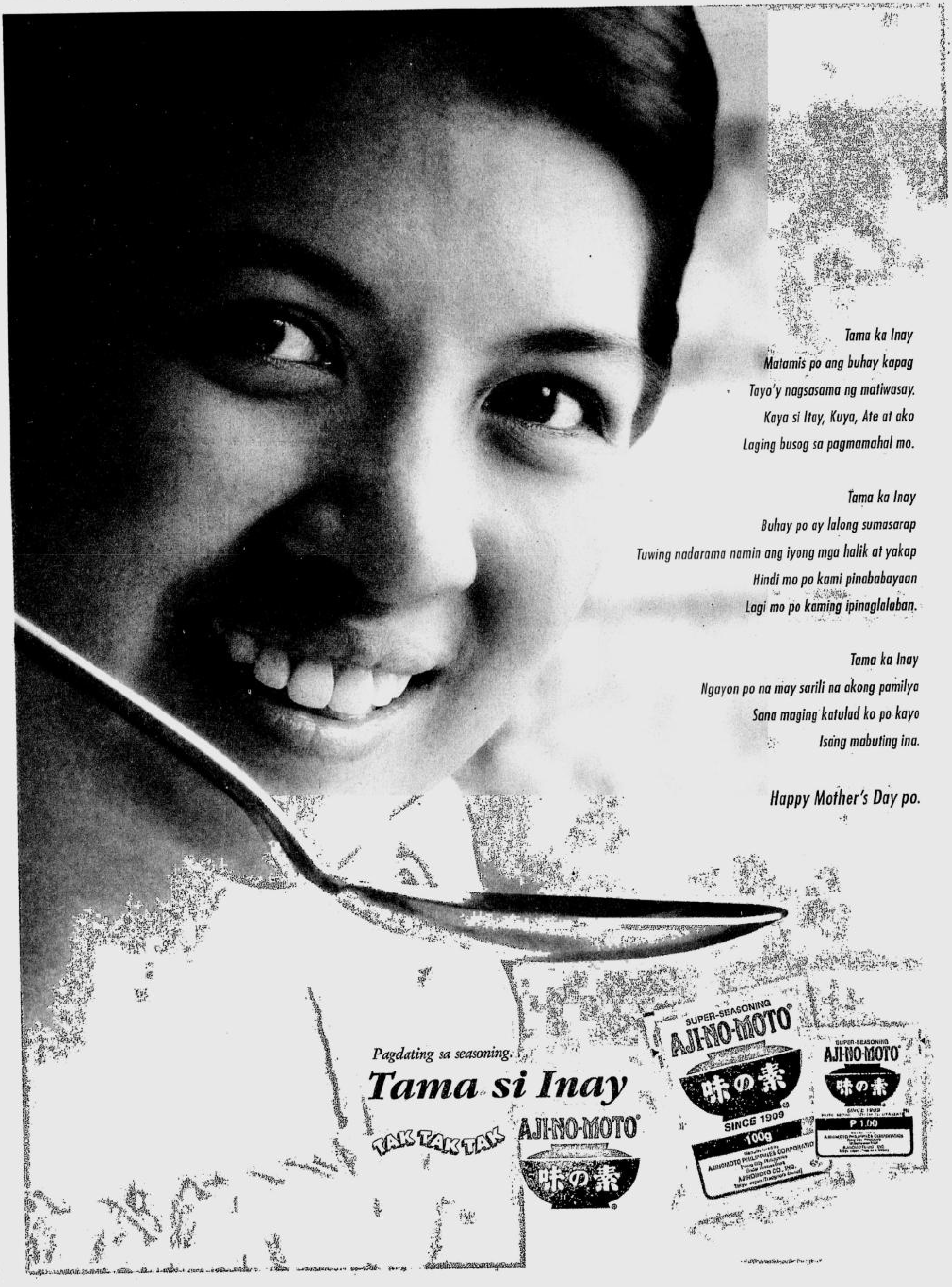
THERE is no better day to treat our mothers out than the day made especially for them, Mother's Day. Bring them to Teriyaki Boy and as a Mother's Day treat, Mommies will be receiving a bottle of Aomori Apple Juice.

The Aomori Apple Juice is a favorite drink in Japan. The country well known for their delicious Fuji apples also produces the best tasting version of this fruit juice. The apple juice is surprisingly sweet and refreshing not your typical sour cider. Not only is this concoction refreshingly tasty, it's also made out of the purest and most natural of ingredients.

Celebrate Mother's Day at Teriyaki Boy and enjoy the delectable variety of Japanese dishes and a chance to bring home a bottle of Aomori Apple Juice. One bottle is good for a minimum transaction of P500.

Provide only the best for our mothers. Happy Mother's Day!

Founded in 2001, Teriyaki Boy has branches in: Madison Square Greenhills San Juan, Tomas Morato Quezon City, Glorietta 3 Makati City, Festival Mall Alabang, SM City Pines Baguio City, Megastrip SM Megamall Building B, Market! Market! Bonifacio Global City and Promenade Greenhills Shopping Center.


Tama ka Inay
Matamis po ang buhay kapag
Tayo'y nagsasama ng matiwasay.
Kaya si Itay, Kuya, Ate at ako
Laging busog sa pagmamahal mo.

Tama ka Inay
Buhay po ay lalong sumasarap
Tuwing nadarama namin ang iyong mga halik at yakap
Hindi mo po kami pinababayaan
Lagi mo po kaming ipinaglalaban.

Tama ka Inay
Ngayon po na may sarili na akong pamilya
Sana maging katulad ko po kayo
Isang mabuting ina.

Happy Mother's Day po.

Pagdating sa seasoning.
Tama si Inay

The gift of comfort this Mother's Day

MOTHER'S Day has come! Rejuvenating the dormant love and gratitude we owe to our mother is one of the greatest ways to let them know that we appreciate them. They can't almost find real relaxation just to take care of us all the time. So, it's time to give our mother the real relaxing gift this season. Let her experience the revitalizing treatment of TENS Therapy.

Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation (TENS) is a form of electrical physical therapy that has been used to relieve pain and to experience rejuvenation. TENS is considered the safe and highly practical pain relief system that is effective at relieving both acute and chronic pain. Many studies show that TENS Therapy consistently responds well to stiff shoulder, back pain, joint pain, phantom limb pain, cold-related ailment and swelling, rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis and post-herpetic nerve pain.

Omron, Japan has now brought its clinically validated, quality engineered TENS Massagers here in the Philippines. One of these electronic nerve stimulators is TENS HV-F128 that can be used for a wide variety of chronic and muscular pain conditions. HV-F128, known as "the take anytime, anywhere spa" revitalizes aching and tired muscles and joints. It is made handy and lightweight so you can carry it wherever you go and whenever you want.

Other electronic nerve stimulators include HV-F127, HV-F158 (Gobeanii), HV-F125 and HV-F126.

With these high-technology therapy products, your mother can now find the real relaxation the quicker way anytime and anywhere she wants. With TENS-Therapy, she will be able to fulfill her health goals and achieve a good sense of life.

TENS Therapy Massagers and other Omron health care products are exclusively distributed by Collins International Trading Corp. Collins International will be sponsoring a "Family at Work" exhibit from May 16 to 30 at Glorietta Activity Center with TENS as its main product focused on the celebration of Mother's Day.

For more information about TENS Massagers, visit outlets at Automatic Centre, Abenson, Ansons, Watsons or SM Appliance Centers, or call Collins International at 681-6161/681-6163; fax: 646-5979/681-6162. For other inquiries regarding its products, log on to www.collins-international.com.ph or e-mail marketing@collins-international.com.ph.

THE TENS HV-F128, known as 'the take anytime, anywhere spa' revitalizes aching and tired muscles and joints.

Great teriyaki begins with great soy sauce

WHETHER used in today's kitchen as marinade, [illegible]

Teriyaki Burger

Ingredients:
1 slice loaf bread
2 tbsps milk
1/8 tsp pepper
3 tbsps Kikkoman Teriyaki Marinade & Sauce
1 pc egg, beaten
½ tsp mustard
1 tbsp onion, finely chopped
½ k ground beef
oil for frying

Sauce:
¼ cup water
3 tbsps Kikkoman Teriyaki Marinade & Sauce
1 tbsp mirin or cooking wine
2 tbsps sugar
1 tbsp cornstarch
½ tsp grated ginger

Soak bread milk then add pepper, Teriyaki Marinade & Sauce, egg, mustard and chopped onion.

Add this mixture to ground beef and mix well. Form into patties.
For the sauce, mix all ingredients except grated ginger. Cook over medium heat and stir continuously. When sauce thickens, add grated ginger.
Pan fry patties in hot oil. Serve with sauce.
Makes 16 patties

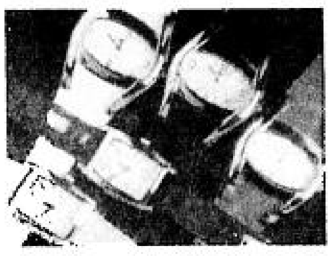
Honey Chicken Fillet

Ingredients:
½ k chicken fillet

Marinade Mix:
¼ cup honey
1 clove garlic, mince
½ cup Kikkoman teriyaki Marinade & Sauce
½ tsp ginger, minced

Marinate chicken in marinade mix overnight in refrigerator. Turn occasionally. Drain the chicken and set aside marinade mix. Bake at 350 F. Occasionally baste the chicken with the remaining marinade mix. Cook until done. Serves 8

Anne Klein's colors of summer



THIS season, Anne Klein New York watches feature cool, hip, and fun colors and designs perfect for the hot summer. Accessorize your favorite summer outfit with Anne Klein's bright orange, green, yellow, pink, blue, and lavender girly leather band watches.

Anne Klein's exciting summer color collection brings a fusion of sporty and feminine design incorporating both classic and modern styles that jive with the cheerful summer atmosphere. A selection of oval, round and square faced watches with genuine mother of pearl dials and crocograin or two-layer leather straps gives an ultra-feminine look that simply spells "Fun with Style".

When you're out to squeeze in a game or two of your favorite racket sports, AK's multifunction strap watch with subdials for the date and day will always keep you on schedule. And for a day at the pool or at the beach, flash your Anne Klein water resistant leather watch with stainless steel casing for a fashionable dive.

Watch out for your favorite Anne Klein summer series at L Timestudio, the country's premiere timepiece boutique. A unique concept store from The Lucerne Group, L Timestudio represents that which is hip, hot, and trendy when it comes to shopping for watches. The chain sets its sights on evolving with the present consumer mindset of lifestyle shopping.

L Timestudio boutiques are located at Alabang Town Center, Power Plant Mall, Market! Market!, Shangrila Plaza, Festival Supermall, Limketkai in Cagayan de Oro; Robinsons stores in Ortigas, Pioneer, Ermita; and in SM stores in Makati, Pampanga, Baguio Bicutan, Ortigas, Lucena, and Marilao. Soon to open is L Timestudio in The Podium.

Anne Klein fashion watches are also available at Rustan's Makati, Rustan Tower, Chronos, and Lucerne.

Empower gives your family the gift of a better life

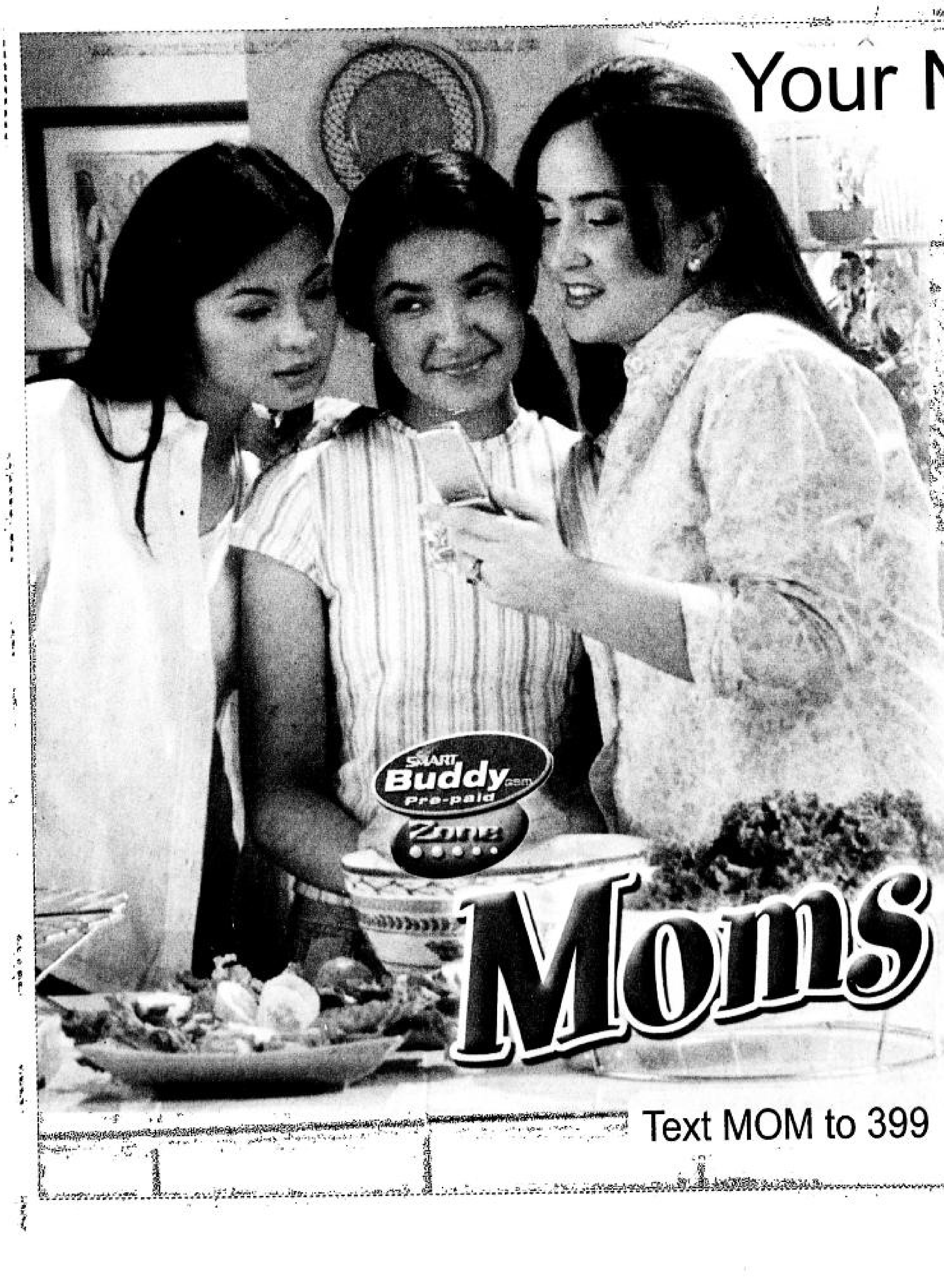
THIS MOTHER'S DAY, let's help mom get the most out of her life by making sure she is in the best of health along with the rest of your family. Empower, a natural supplement manufacturer of the Moreishi product line, offers powerful herbal combinations that boast of a potent synergistic effect that helps keep the body functioning well. Whereas mom could take several natural supplements or foods that can aid separate health benefits, the Moreishi products have already researched and combined those that will yield more potent results that can be taken in ways that are delicious and convenient as well.

Instead of mom merely taking a daily dose of caffeine, now she can enjoy the goodness of the synergistic blend of 7 premium natural herbs and a coffee, creamer and sugar blend in Moreishi 10-in-1 Instant Coffee Drink. All mom needs is to pour it into a mug of hot water and instantly enjoy the powerful natural boost with her daily caffeine rush. In fact, Moreishi 10-in-1 coffee drink was recently recognized as the "Top Herbal Coffee Brand" of 2004 by the National Consumer Affairs Foundation. Or if enjoying a glass of wine is your idea of a treat for mom, Moreishi Golden Herbs also offers a 12-in-1 tonic that can be enjoyed in the same way but with the benefits of having Reishi, Indian Mulberry, Sambong, Lagundi, Ginseng and a host of other of nature's gifts. What's more, all Moreishi products distributed by the Empower Group are registered with the Bureau of Food and Drug. Pampering you mother and taking care of her health has never been easier.

For more information about Empower membership and its range of products, call 534-6843/534-6702/5346704.

Moreishi 10
Golden Herbs

Your New Buddy is Here!



Mother's Day has just come and gone. Each year we celebrate this day so that we may give tribute to all the moms out there who have made life so wonderful and brimming with love. This 2005, that special day was made even more special by the arrival of a new friend.

SMART Buddy has just introduced its latest service, an exclusive lifestyle club for mothers and mothers to be. Buddy Moms provides relevant motherhood, pregnancy, and lifestyle tips so that you may access food recipes, advice on gardening, parenting, smart shopping, and more! Also be entertained with daily inspirational quotes, horoscopes, and current fitness trends that can benefit the whole family. Use the Gender Prediction Chart, Baby Names service, and Ovulation Calculator when you need it. From this day forth, Buddy Moms will be your guide to becoming the super mom you want to be!

To subscribe just send MOM to 399 and receive a special Mommy Pack from partner establishments like Marcella, Bench, SM, Cinderella, and Babyland. Drop by any Watson store and claim your Special Mommy Pack by presenting your text message from Buddy Moms. So go ahead and continue to celebrate your day with flare. Make use of discounts, freebies, sales alerts, and special invites to exclusive events. Be a Buddy Mom and join this exclusive club for great moms.

I ♥ SMART
Simply Amazing!

Text MOM to 399

Fabulous mom's day at Astoria Plaza

SHOW Mom how much you love her! Pamper her, recharge her and bring her to heights of bliss for a much-needed break by checking her in Astoria Plaza's 1-bedroom suite for only P3,150 or a 2-bedroom suite for only P4,950. Moms checking in a 1-bedroom suite get to enjoy complimentary in-room massage and those checking in a 2-bedroom suite get to enjoy in-room massage with foot spa as an added treat. Other value perks for mom are buffet breakfast, free use of the gym and the pool to beat the summer heat, free roundtrip shuttle service to nearby malls, complimentary bottled mineral water, free local newspaper and 10-percent discount at Stresscape Spa. Room rates are subject to service charge and government taxes.

Lucky moms may even get to win equally fabulous prizes such as subscription gift certificates from Summit Publications' Cosmo Magazine and gift packs from Blooming Fields' Summer's Eve and Rustan's Laura Mercier.

The Astoria Plaza is affiliated with the Cathay Group of Companies and is managed with distinction by Genesis Hotels & Resorts. It is conveniently located at 15 J. Escriva Drive, Ortigas Business District, Pasig City. For inquiries and reservations, visit the hotel or call 687-1111. E-mail sales@astoriaplaza.com. Log on to www.astoriaplaza.com.

It's a great mom's day at The Podium

MOMS are in for cool treats and fabulous surprises as The Podium celebrates Mother's Day today, May 8.

The pampering begins as The Podium's shops invite mom to indulge in a whole day of activities centered on healthy, beauty, well being, and style.

Moms can get the latest tips on make up and hair styling at Watsons from beauty experts from Shiseido and Citre Shine. They will also be treated to facials and skin care tips by L'Oreal; hair care analysis courtesy of Pantene, and a bone check consultation by Caltrate, Calci-Aid, and Nestle Plus.

It's really mom's day out as the Lotus Hand and Nail Spa treats mom to a free hand and back massage. Stylish moms, on the other hand, can participate in a beading and accessories workshop at Wildflower by Inky Nakpil. Sporty moms, meanwhile, can get a foot scanning to determine what type of shoe is best suited to her foot's shape.

Highlighting the "M-Day" celebration is a session with super mom and fitness guru Jackie Lou Blanco, who will share her own health and well-being secrets from 2 to 3 p.m. at the mall's lounge area. This will be followed by a lifestyle talk by Jie Pambid, president of JP Lake & Associates and dean of the prestigious Philippine School of Interior Design. He will give moms insights on new home trends and forecasts, and design a luxe table setting from Living Well.

Capping the festivities is a fashion show in cooperation with Me and My Home magazines at 3:30 at the lounge area. Moms will get a glimpse of the latest casual, corporate, sporty, and maternity collections from Jessica, Episode, Sisley, Adidas, and Kate, Jack+Gingersnaps. Shoes and accessories will be by Bass, Dexter, Tommy Hilfiger Watches, and Wildflower by Inky Nakpil.

The Podium's Mother's Day celebration is made possible by Me, My Home, Appetite Magazines, together with Country Suites Tagaytay, Watsons, David's Prestige, Yaku, Fuzion, TK by Toy Kingdom, Burgoo, and Chicco.

SUPER mom and fitness guru Jackie Lou Blanco.

Mother Nature's gift for mom

ECCEL Organics introduces its seven steps to beauty in just one unique and organic application. A perfect gift for a perfect mom.

A complete alternative to skin care, the Brilliance Skin Rejuvenating Complex is ECCel Organics' new contribution to health and beauty. It promotes healthier and brighter skin through its natural ingredients.

Brilliance Skin Rejuvenating Complex provides an easier and simpler option for beauty-conscious people to manage skin aging by preventing damages through its unique, natural solution. It is an all-in-one solution, which boasts a variety of Mother Nature's gifts for a clearer and more beautiful skin. It is packed with natural ingredients, which provide a therapeutic solution to the skin. Brilliance Skin Rejuvenating Complex works to help maintain skin balance, prevent pimples, wash away impurities, and stop aging.

The special formula promotes the growth of healthier skin cells, thus, preventing dull skin. ECCel Organics provides the highest quality ingredients in its Brilliance Skin Rejuvenating Complex product to promote a breakthrough in skin science.

For more details, call ECCel Organics at 928-2002, 926-1594, or 0917-5310711. E-mail eccelorganics@yahoo.com.

ECCel Organics
Brilliance
Skin Rejuvenating Complex

Only BDO Shop More MasterCard gives you More Rewards, More Shopping Value at SM

Though relatively a new player in the credit card industry, Banco de Oro, one of the country's top universal banks, realized the importance of going into customer segmentation early. Its special relationship with SM, undoubtedly the country's largest chain of retail establishments, has made BDO the only bank to tap into the enormous market of SM shoppers, with a new card product aptly named the **BDO Shop More MasterCard**.

The synergy between the bank and SM was fully utilized by leveraging on the retail strength of the latter to offer the best rewards program for the SM shopper.

More rewards points!
The BDO Shop More MasterCard allows cardholders to shop and earn rewards from anywhere in the world because of the MasterCard global payment brand. But when it is used at SM stores and its affiliate shops, that's when it becomes most powerful for the cardholder as it gives 4x more rewards points than any other card every time it's used at SM Department Store, Ace Hardware, Toy Kingdom and Sports Central, and 6x more rewards points when used at SM Supermarket, Super SM Hypermarket, SM Appliance Center and Our Home. The **BDO Shop More MasterCard** works in tandem with the SM Advantage Card, SM's chip-based electronic loyalty card program given free to all **BDO Shop More MasterCard** cardholders.

BDO Shop More MasterCard's system of rewards points also relieve shoppers of the confusing rewards points conversion as a point equals to one peso. And, shoppers can choose from a wide range of rewards choices at any SM Department Store and most SM retail affiliates.

More value on installment purchases!
Shoppers enjoy as low as 0% interest on continuing installment promos at SM Appliance Center, Our Home, Toy Kingdom and Sports Central.

More discounts and privileges exclusive to BDO Shop More MasterCard holders!
With the **BDO Shop More MasterCard**, shoppers enjoy the smartest way to get more shopping values at all these stores: SM Department Store, SM Supermarket, Super SM Hypermarket, SM Appliance Center, Our Home, Ace Hardware, Toy Kingdom, Sports Central, SM Skating Rink, SM Bowling Center, and Baby and Co.

More savings with the lowest balance transfer rate ever at 0.88%!
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Plus, shoppers can get a load of all these freebies that come with the **BDO Shop More MasterCard**: FREE Membership Fee for the First Year, FREE First Supplementary Card, and FREE SM Advantage Card!

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BDO Shop More MasterCard is accepted worldwide, and is loaded with these standard features: Free Lost Card Protection, Wide Payment Network, to 30% of credit limit, plus the convenience of BDO's longer banking hours that extend even up to Sundays and holidays for selected branches.

Apply now! Visit the BDO Shop More sales booths inside selected SM Department Stores and Supermarkets or any Banco de Oro branch near you. **Call 631-8000 for more details.**

Happy Mother's Day! From **BDO Shop More MasterCard**

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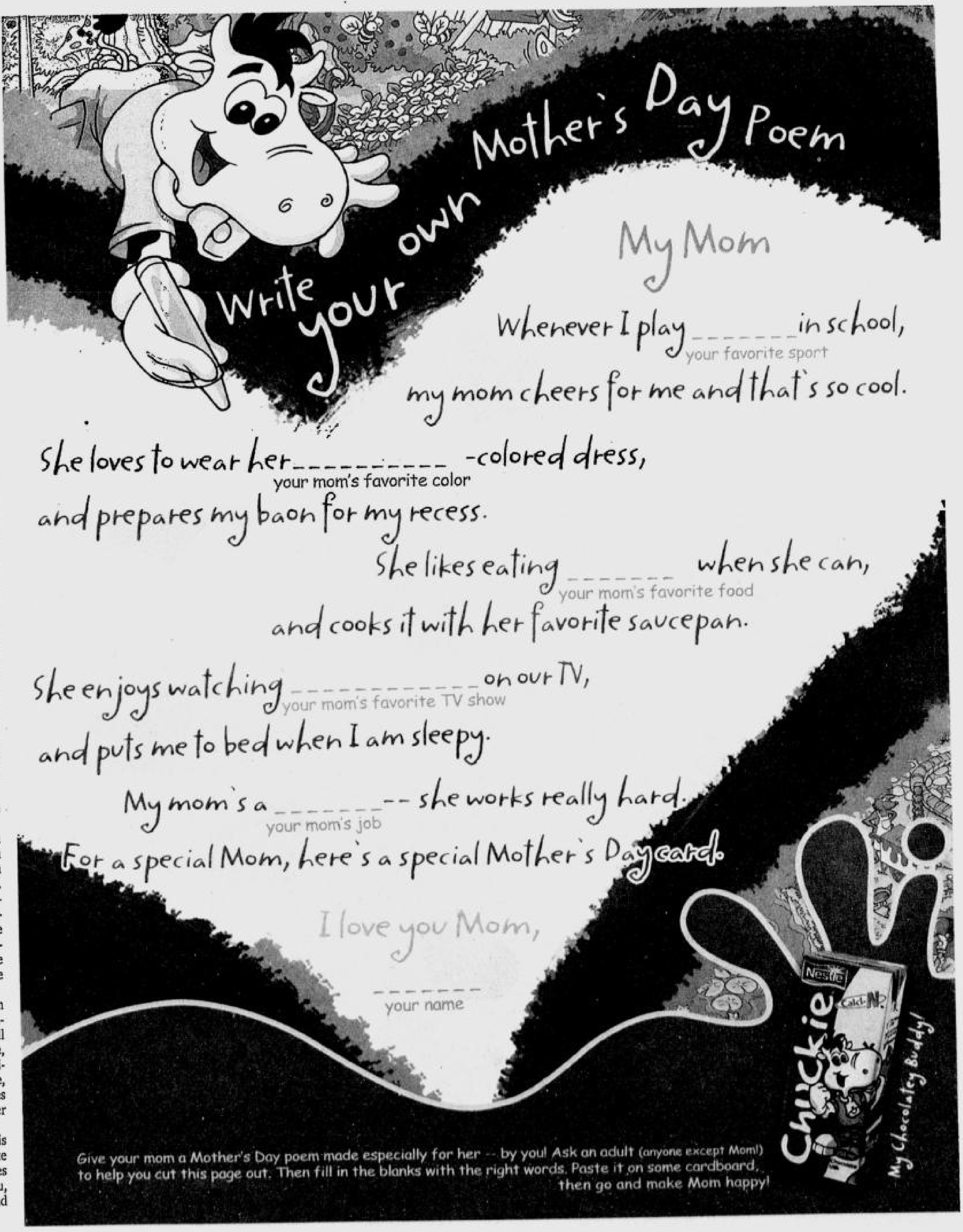

Write your own Mother's Day Poem

My Mom

Whenever I play ______ in school,
your favorite sport
my mom cheers for me and that's so cool.
She loves to wear her __________ -colored dress,
your mom's favorite color
and prepares my baon for my recess.
She likes eating ______ when she can,
your mom's favorite food
and cooks it with her favorite saucepan.
She enjoys watching ___________ on our TV,
your mom's favorite TV show
and puts me to bed when I am sleepy.
My mom's a ______ -- she works really hard.
your mom's job
For a special Mom, here's a special Mother's Day card.

I love you Mom,

______
your name

Give your mom a Mother's Day poem made especially for her -- by you! Ask an adult (anyone except Mom!) to help you cut this page out. Then fill in the blanks with the right words. Paste it on some cardboard, then go and make Mom happy!

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From The No.1 Pre-paid Service

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Mama, this day's for you

Mom's the word

By Normandy A. dela Paz

AS I was playing Text Twist on my PC (the game wherein you derive as many words as you can from a certain word) while thinking of what to give my mom on Mother's Day. I suddenly had an amazing discovery, brought about either by sheer intellect or by a lot of idle time on my hands, which I presume came from the second. Aside from discovering that I sucked in the game, I noticed that all the words you could get from the word "mother" were all related to the root word, and suggest a very good idea on what to give her in her special day. Here's what I mean:

Moth - According to the dictionary, is any numerous insects of the order Lepidoptera, generally distinguished from the butterflies by having antennae of various types, usually not clubbed and by having nocturnal or crepuscular habits. They are also the reason naphthalene balls are always on the grocery list of mom, and why she stresses the value of education because she doesn't want her kids to have moths growing in the brain. A great gift would be promising to put out good grades next semester, or if you're not up to it, naphthalene balls are quite inexpensive.

Mot - A pithy or witty remark. What mom always gives when her kids ask permission for something they know they wouldn't be allowed to see, hear, do or go to. A Mother's Day card with a witty remark will match.

Mote - A particle or speck, especially of dust. Mom's enemy No. 1. Usually fought off with dad's old and raggedy underwear. Send dad's under wear to the retirement home and give mom a vacuum cleaner or a feather duster. Depending, of course, on how much "mote" of money you have in your pockets.

Mort - The fat on ham or bacon. What mom thinks should be removed from her sides through liposuction. Give mom the gift of reassurance that she doesn't need one because the one bringing home the bacon (dad) and those eating the bacon (kids) will always look at the one cooking the bacon (mom) as the sexiest woman alive.

Other - Some person or thing else. That "sig-

MOM/O2

THERE'S not enough money in the world to compensate the 9 months of morning sickness, hot flashes, and carrying that extra load in her tummy. But a kiss on Mother's Day will assure mom that it was worth all the effort.

Healthy breakfast for smart kids

PARENTS listen up: a good breakfast is a prerequisite to learning.

Nutritious meals in the morning are essential for children to perform well in school and have active social lives as they grow up. Breakfast supplies at least a quarter of a child's energy for the day. Thus, if breakfast were missed, the child expectedly would be less alert and his learning potential substantially diminished.

When an inadequately nourished kid goes to school, he is likely to be more irritable and anxious, less inquisitive, tires more quickly, less physically active, and not very sociable. Children who have empty, rumbling stomachs certainly will find it difficult to concentrate on their lessons.

On top of ensuring a full stomach, it is important to give children the right kind of foods at breakfast, since not all foods are created equal.

A healthful meal for children at the start of the day will positively impact learning. Studies conducted through the years showed that students who took a nutritious breakfast have higher test scores and are generally more competitive performance than their counterparts who didn't eat breakfast.

Healthy breakfast fares include those that contain complex carbohydrates in the form of grains such as oatmeal, brown rice, cereals, root crops like potatoes and yam; proteins from meats, beans and nuts; fiber and vitamins from fruits and vegetables; and calcium and other minerals from milk, cheese and yogurt.

Fiber from complex carbohydrates creates the feeling of fullness, thereby ensuring mental alertness, while the glucose that you get from this food group is used by the brain as fuel during mental activity.

Tufts University, one of the premier universities in the United States, recently conducted a study on oatmeal, which is a prime example of food with high complex carbohydrates.

Comparing effects

Researchers from Tufts University compared the effects of eating either oatmeal or cereal at breakfast or having no breakfast at all, on the cognitive performance of 30 middle-income, Boston-area students. Over a three-week time frame, the students were asked to take tests minutes after eating their assigned breakfast. Those who didn't have breakfast were also asked to take the mental examination.

The first study found out that among children ages six to eight, spatial memory skills (which are essential for subjects like math and geography) increased by almost 50% after eating oatmeal for breakfast as compared to having no breakfast at all. Forty-six percent (46%) of the children also improved their skills after eating oatmeal compared to when they ate cereals.

The second study found out that among children ages nine to eleven years old, 68% performed better when they ate oatmeal compared to those who didn't have any breakfast.

The study cited the whole grain, high fiber, and high protein content of oatmeal as significantly affecting spatial memory performance. The study revealed that oatmeal, which is digested very slowly, promotes a slow and continued release of glucose into the bloodstream, which in turn, enhances cognitive performance.

Other emerging researches also confirm that oatmeal, or complex carbohydrates in general, are best for the brain because it contains fiber that resists digestion, slowing its breakdown and the subsequent release of sugars into the bloodstream. This slow and even absorption of sugar is highly beneficial to the brain, as it performs better on a minimal yet constant supply of sugar.

So if you're a parent planning a healthy breakfast menu for your children, don't fail to include oatmeal into the diet. Oats, in almost all forms - rolled, old-fashioned, quick cooking, and even instant, is readily available for that hearty bowl of oatmeal or as ingredient to a great-tasting and nutrition-packed recipes. The Quaker Oats Company, maker of the world's leading oatmeal brand Quaker Oatmeal, offers delicious oatmeal products so Filipinos can enjoy the health-giving goodness of oatmeal, just log on to www.quakeroatmeal.com.

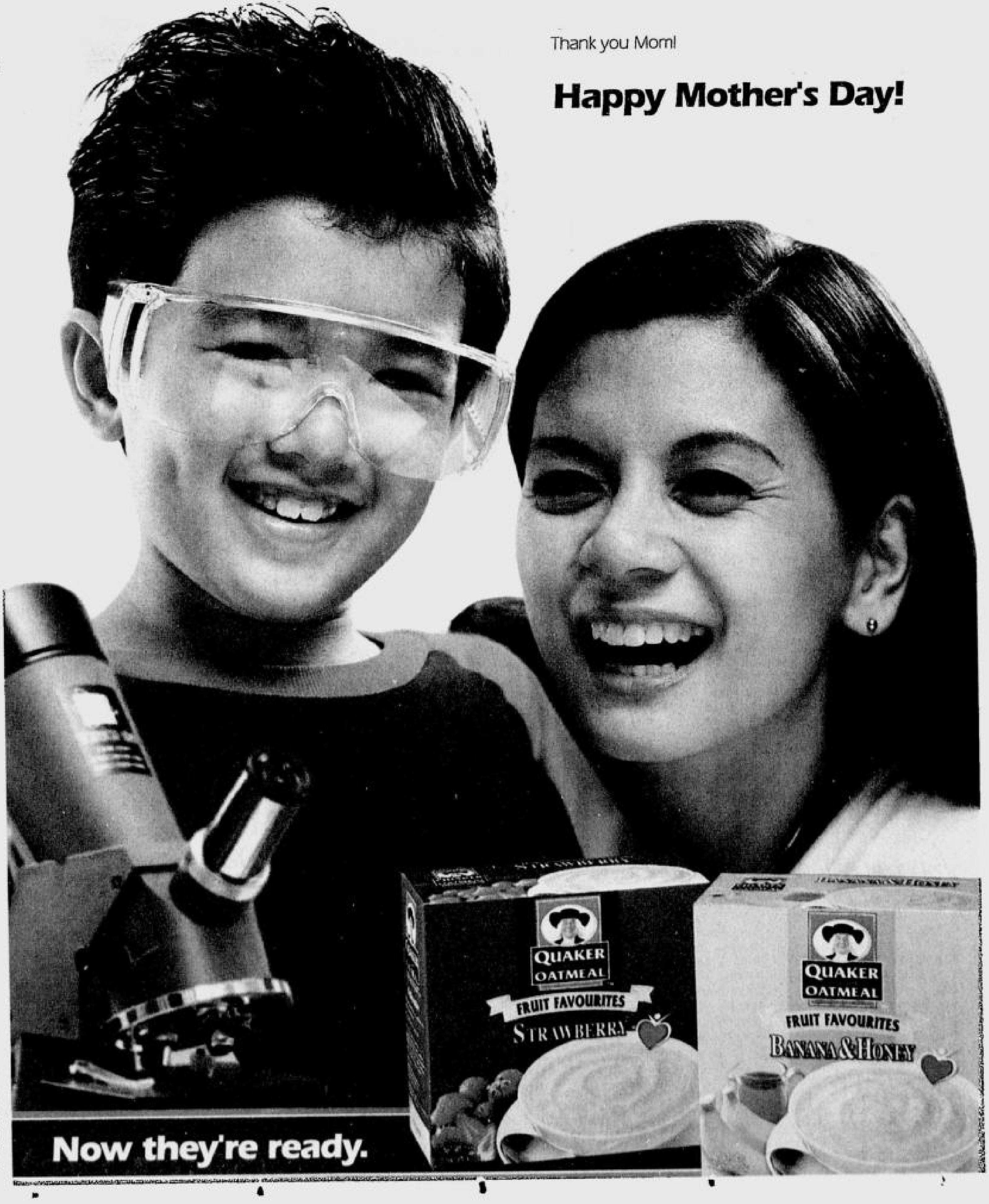
I love my mom.
It's not rocket science.

QUAKER

How do I know my mom loves me? From a thousand little things! Like my warm bowl of Quaker Fruit Favourites. It's yummy, nutritious and provides me energy for the day. Just like my mom's hugs and kisses.

Thank you Mom!

Happy Mother's Day!



'Mom' with patience of a saint

By Marlet D. Salazar

DISCIPLINARIAN 'mother' takes those that nobody else wants.

SHE is a full-time mom. She devotes all her time to her "children." She feeds, plays, brings them to the hospital, and takes care of them every day (and night). But don't ask Ma. Teresita Pardo Hontiveros-Lichauco how many "kids" she has or you'll be astounded at her casual reply.

Nita, or Tata to most people, is the epitome of a dedicated parent to all her pets. Nobody can doubt the love she gives to these unwanted strays that she adopted over the years. These animals never seem to grow up in Tata's eyes. She would talk to them like babies.

Caring for animals was never an issue between her and husband of 48 years, Alejandro or Tito Ding. When they got married, Ding had a dog named Spotty. Tata recalls the only change that time was that cats were not initially accepted by Ding because he didn't like cats.

"He just wondered why I never differentiated between our pets and stray animals—why to me all animals were precious," Tata said.

The couple never had kids. Seven months into their marriage Tata fell ill. They were advised by doctors to take a breather from their respective causes (he for human rights and Tata for animal rights).

Tata's house in Horseshoe Drive in Quezon City is where the animals outnumber the humans. At present, she cares for 36 felines in her catteries located just outside her bedroom and 12 dogs in separate areas where they run as they please. In Manila, she has 38 cats and four dogs while in Shangri-La Luna in Tayug, Pangasinan, there are 9 dogs and 11 cats. At one time, she had 26 dogs together. That was in the 1970s.

"I've always had lots of animals—all of them *askals* (street dogs) and *pusakals* (feral cats) because I take those that nobody else wants," Tata said. "With four-legged creatures I have the patience of a saint because they are so helpless and innocent, and most people are there to protect human babies, while only a few of us watch over the non-human babies."

Tata fondly narrates the part Ding's dog played at the start of their marriage.

"It was Spotty who decided that I could sleep on the other side of his pal Ding," she said. "That made three of us in one bed, and sometimes, the two of them crowded me out when they were very fast asleep. In self-defense, I put up a side bed to where I would move when the going got too tight."

God's blessing

Like most "mothers," Tata makes it a point that all her *alagas* are well fed and are left in good hands when she leaves the house. All her house help also love animals.

"I never leave without telling the cats and dogs not to fight or make a nuisance of themselves," she said. "All these years, I've never really had any serious problems with them."

Tata always asks God's blessing and protection for all the animals in the world.

Her deep affection for animals is the product of her parents' teaching to be kind and to respect these creatures. She is the eighth of the 10 children of Supreme Court Justice Jose Hontiveros and violinist Vicenta Ruiz Pardo. She studied Music and once enrolled in pre-law at the University of Sto. Tomas, and even considered Medicine. She is an alumna of Assumption College.

Her love for animals hasn't been just about rescuing strays. In 1964, Tata joined the Philippine Animal Welfare Society, 10 years after it was established. In 1986, she decided to revive the 100-percent volunteer group. One of its accomplishments has been the passage of the Animal Welfare Act, or Republic Act 8485 of 1998. The PAWS Animal Rehabilitation Center is a shelter for unwanted animals located at Katipunan Avenue, Quezon City.

Like most "parents," Tata considers herself a disciplinarian.

"No matter how cute my babies try to be, I don't give in," she said. "It's Tito Ding who spoils everyone."

Aside from the unconditional love her pets give her, Tata still finds it very amusing to watch the antics of dogs and cats.

"They make *pakitang gilas*," she said. Everytime she visits the cattery, the cats come to the door to greet. "Even their facial expressions can be so funny!" she said.

Tata tends to her pets personally if her house help go on vacation. Tiring it may be, the rewards of unending gratitude and love from the animals are more than enough to soothe her.

For newborn pups and kittens, Tata would go as far as bottle-feeding them every few hours and when a pet is seriously ill, "I sing or talk to his third eye with healing affirmations and they generally get well soon," she said.

Visit to the vet

Tata fondly relates the excitement and "ordeal" of bringing a pet to the veterinarian. "When we put a dog or cat inside the traveling cage, at first he is calm. When the car gets moving, he suspects we're on our way to the vet. That's when the howling, meowing, crying begins! You'd think we were butchering him! Once inside the clinic, if he needs an injection, I go outside because he behaves better when Mommy isn't within view."

Most animal-lovers would understand the feeling of losing a pet. For Tata, who has been through it many times, she still grieves when any pet dies.

"They never complain and they can't tell you what ails them," she said.

But the most telling, in her married life, was when Spotty had to be euthanized, or "put to sleep", because he was suffering terribly from a heart condition.

"I had to learn how to give Spotty his shots for his attacks," she said. "That dog was actually ashamed about being unable to contain his urine."

Ding always had to carry him no matter how heavy he was to the garden. According to Tata, when the end had to come, they held him in their arms inside the clinic. It was midnight.

"I couldn't stand the pain in my heart, and strange as this may sound, it was only when I threw back my head and howled like a wolf that the pain eased a bit," Tata said. "Neither Ding nor the driver found that unusual."

"What I love most about animals is the way they love me the way I am with all my imperfections," she said. "They lick away my tears; reassure my fears with their vigilant presence."

It doesn't come as a surprise how these animals rule their house. Tata said the house rules that she and Ding impose, in order of importance, are: "the dogs and cats, and then us."

"When there's trouble in the streets, while other families have the dogs put out in the yard to guard, we put all the dogs and cats inside," she said. "There's no sense exposing them to danger which we can handle ourselves and if we sound crazy, so be it."

Tata hopes that newly married couples would come into agreement when one of them is a devoted animal lover.

And she has this more to say: "You'll be poorer for it if you just leave your pets behind. Try to get your partner to love your pet, so you can both enjoy the animal. If that doesn't work, make sure your parents or friends who love your pet look after him well, and visit as often as you can."

Mom's the word

From page O1

nificant other" for dad will be mom, because if it wasn't her, dad will surely join "The Others". A DVD of "The Others" will be nice coupled with a note telling mom that she's exactly the opposite of the mom played by Nicole Kidman in the movie.

More - Something of greater importance. Which mom is much, much of. A box of sweet-tasting, heart-warming Smores will be great. And what makes it much, much more great is that mom doesn't eat that high calorie stuff, which makes you the automatic beneficiary of your own present.

Ore - A metal-bearing mineral or rock. What mom sees in her kids that people don't notice. To others, they see mom's kids as brats, as dumb as a bunch of rocks. But to mom, her kids are rocks containing a precious material that will later be turned into something valuable for other people. Give her a pumice stone perfect for rubbing the body to exfoliate dead skin cells, especially that of dad's.

Roe - The mass of eggs, or spawn within the ovarian membrane of the female fish. If we believe Charles Darwin, we started out in the sea as fishes. If mom is a fish then were all roe. A box set of caviar and crackers for mom can do no roe, er, wrong.

Toe - One of the terminal digits of the foot. These things are the most neglected part of the body when you're a mom. It will do well to treat her to a foot spa, or give her a foot massage, more specifically a toe rub. Besides it will not cost you an arm and a leg, just feet.

Tore - Past tense of tear. Mom's sewing skills really comes in handy with this word. A sewing kit is the obvious choice.

Tor - A rocky pinnacle; a peak of a bare or rocky mountain or hill. Each one of us thinks our mom is at the pinnacle or queen of the hill when it comes to being the greatest mom. Invite mom to a picnic in Tagaytay. It will surely be at the top of her to-do list on Mother's Day.

Rote - Routine; a fixed, habitual or mechanical course of procedure. Mom is a slave to the "rote" of daily living. Let her do something different on Mother's Day, or better yet let her not do something on Mother's Day and everyone else in the family pitch in to do her daily rote if only just for that day.

Her - The objective case of she. There is no other *mujer* than her for us when being a great mom is concerned. Flattery placed right after the word "her" such as "beauty" "kindness", etc. in a poem will definitely get you somewhere.

Hero - A person who, in the opinion of others, has heroic qualities or has performed a heroic act and is regarded as a model or ideal. Mom is an everyday hero who works around the clock without complain. Ever the domicile defender, abode avenger, the mild-mannered Supermom makes sure that people under her watch are free from the evil clutches of dust, clutter and junk. Make mom a hero sandwich while she's busy doing her house chores. A hero for a hero.

Them - The objective case of they. In this case, the object of her affection, which is dad and us. A nice chat at the dinner table with every member of the family is more than enough of a reward for a mom who slaved away at the kitchen for hours.

Rot - Mold, molder, putrefy, spoil. What mom hates when all the food she cooked just goes to waste because everyone already ate outside. It will not be asking too much if we not eat between meals so that we will not spoil our appetite when mom serves lunch or dinner.

Hoe - A long-handled implement having a thin, flat blade usually set transversely, used to break up the surface of the ground, destroy weeds etc. Just like in gardening where mom uses the hoe to pull out weeds from her precious plants, mom uses her hoe of wisdom to make sure her precious kids don't end up hanging around with the weeds of this earth. Giving mom garden tools will certainly make her thumb green with delight.

Met - Past tense of meet. The word when put between mom and dad, is the reason we are here today. Set a candlelight dinner for them in the house, where everything is prepared by the product of their meeting.

Herm - A monument consisting of a four-sided shaft, tapering inward from top to bottom and bearing a head or bust. For being the greatest mom, she should have a herm in her honor. But giving her one would be costly and somewhat grim especially when a raven perches on it quoting "nevermore". A caricature will be less expensive and will be sentimental if done by you.

Hem - An utterance resembling a slight clearing of the throat, used to attract attention, express doubt, etc. Even though mom doesn't say anything after doing her chores or complain about the mess in the house, a "hem" sound from her means "I did I great job didn't I?" or "Why do I have such hyperactive yet lazy kids?". Complementing her on how she ironed your shirt this morning, or picking up after yourself just for once will definitely clear her throat.

ILLUSTRATION BY ALIZZA BUTIONG

Hot - Having or communicating heat/having or showing intense feeling. If there's anyone who can show intense feeling towards us, it's mom. Fire away at the stove and cook something for her, like your specialty—boiled eggs.

Home - The place in which one's domestic affections are centered. Mom's kingdom where she reigns supreme. Where mom is the master and servant at the same time. Treat her like a queen this Mother's Day and be there at her every beck and call.

Homer - To hit a home run. Mom surely hit a homer when she married dad and had us. On Mother's Day take her out to a videoke bar, and ask the operator to rig the scoring system so that she always scores a perfect 100. Make her feel she hit a home run every time she sings her syrupy ditties.

Tome - Any book, especially a very heavy, large or learned one. When our mom and dad were kids, our grandparents disciplined them with large and heavy books placed on both of their hands with arms outstretched, while kneeling on the floor with salt or monggo seeds. Nowadays, the tome of knowledge is what mom uses to discipline us. Giving her a thick book written by her favorite author will certainly set things straight.

Metro - A learned borrowing from Greek meaning "uterus". A place where we all came from. There's not enough money in the world to compensate the 9 months of morning sickness, hot flashes, and carrying that extra load in her tummy. Not to mention the painful long hours of going into labor, and after that the gazillion hours spent wide awake changing diapers, pacifying tantrums, preparing the milk which graduated to baby food and now the free grub you enjoy every time you say "Mom I'm hungry". Yup, money can't repay all this, but a kiss on Mother's Day will assure mom that it was worth all the effort.

There you are, take your pick. By the way, mom, I owe you a kiss on Mother's Day.

Round-the-clock tribute to mommies on Mother's Day

IT'S Mother's Day—the queen of the home deserves a full-day, head-to-foot royal treatment. Show her how grateful you are with these mommy-pampering activities from sunup to sundown:

Wonder wake-upper - Treat mom to breakfast in bed. Place a bunch of flowers on the side of the serving tray to make it extra-special.

Morning spa - Drive mom to a health spa for full body massage and facial treatment to melt home and office stresses away.

Love lunch - Bring mama to her favorite restaurant or someplace chic that serves her favorite dish.

Revive mommy's hobbies - Prior to Mother's Day, ask lola or dad to recall an old hobby or interest of your mom before she started her own family. You can then base your gift according to her hobbies.

Labor of love - Let this be a day of absolute relaxation for mom. That means performing the tasks that mother always does for the family; doing the chores lovingly and cheerfully.

Buy an ice cream cake - Make Mother's Day even more special by serving Nestlé Party Cake. It's both an ice cream and a cake that comes in two flavors: Mango Cream Pie, made with layers of sweet mangoes, cream and mango ice cream, and delicious buttercake, and Choco Fudge Brownie Cake, a decadent dessert of chocolate and vanilla ice cream crowned with marshmallows over a choco fudge brownie base. Mom and the whole family will enjoy Nestlé Party Cake.

Bedtime cheer - Send mom to bed with a warm glass of milk and a big, warm hug.

The woman who gave you the gift of life deserves your time, love, and a yummy serving of Nestlé Party Cake. The two-in-one dessert is now available in leading supermarkets nationwide.

There's always a reason for having. Nestlé Party Cake.

A happy Mother's Day to all mommies!

Party Cake!
Party Cake!

Bazaar highlights Mother's Day at Power Plant Mall

CLASSIC and chic will go hand-in-hand at the Power Plant Mall's "Vintage Yard Sale" on Mother's Day weekend. Everyone's most important lady will be the main focus in this event running from May 7 to 8 at The Rockwell Tent at The Plaza. The "Vintage Yard Sale" will feature a most unique and homey atmosphere with many products offered by Rockwell residents, The Rockwell Club members as well as residents of neighboring villages. With moms in mind, Power Plant Mall has arranged a special treat at the South Court. Moms can avail themselves of free makeovers at the Beauty Fair. And for a minimal fee, guests-mom, kids and kids-at-heart alike-can have their portraits done by contemporary portrait artists from the Guevarra Group of Artists including Gig De Pio, Andi Cubi and Bayani Acla. This event is a perfect opportunity to pay tribute to mom on her special day. Don't miss out on it!

Shopwise's 'Mother's Day Rally'

A MOTHER'S job is a 24/7 gig so it is only fitting that we shower her with love all year round. Mother's Day is meaningful as it provides an opportunity to illustrate our thankfulness. The Shopwise "Mother's Day Rally" turns the spotlight on moms via excellent merchandising activities that highlight the many wonderful things moms do for us and what we can do for her in return, each with corresponding gift items.

For most people, home-cooked meals especially made by mom represent the very prosaic but enduring home experiences in one's lifetime. Turn the tables around and plan an extraordinary dinner treat for mom at home. There's plenty of reasons to rally to Shopwise for this affair to avail yourself of special discounts on produce, meat, seafood, condiments, kitchen utensils and even cookbooks. Should a full-course dinner prove too much, how about baking a cake? On special sale this May are baking implements, flour, sugar and baking appliances.

Household chores can be a drag when you would really rather watch TV or hang out with friends. Kudos to moms who instill the importance of keeping the house spic and span. A simple but touching way to show appreciation would be to take over the cleaning chores for a week. If your budget permits, go big time and redecorate mom's room with new furnishings in soothing colors. Also on sale are bed and bath items that moms will surely adore.

Finally, nothing communicates royal treatment better than a combo of breakfast in bed, followed by a full day of leisure activities and capped by a romantic dinner with dad. Shopwise has a wide array of tasty breakfast treats such as yogurt, milk, cereal, bacon, breads and fresh fruits, plus eye-catching fashion items that will surely make dad notice.

Shopwise is located at the ground floor of the Festival Supermall in Alabang, at the corner of Pasong Tamo and Vito Cruz Streets in Makati, along E. Rodriguez Sr Avenue, Bagumbayan, Libis, at the corner of Gen. Aguinaldo and McArthur Avenues in Araneta Center, Cubao, Quezon City, and at the Royal Duty Free Shop in Subic.

Everyday is Mother's Day

ONE OF the hardest but most fulfilling jobs in the world is being a mother. But at times, it seems that fate wants to twists the destinies of people. I've recently come across a story that inspired strength in the midst of adversity.

In GMA 7's show "Wish Ko lang", an episode featured a little boy named Kurt Russell Mongcayo and his mom, who became paralyzed from the waist down due to a spinal cord complication while giving birth to Kurt. Unable to care properly for her son due to her condition, eventually their roles reversed. At the age of 7, Kurt is now taking responsibility for watching over his mom, attending to their sari-sari store, and making sure that the household runs smoothly.

While most kids of Kurt's age spend their time playing out in the streets and enjoying their childhood, Kurt is forced into maturity because of the situation he was born into. It is amazing to learn that he has adapted to the situation quite well, but it is also touching for us to realize that God is attentively watching over His children, because He sent the team of "Wish Ko Lang" to their aid.

As typical "Wish Ko Lang" episodes go, the team surprises the family with a lot of goodies for the whole family to enjoy. They filled Kurt's small living room in Cabuyao, Laguna with groceries and toys to last them for a whole year. But what really made the family cry in joy was when they saw the many boxes of Dr. P adult diapers lining the walls of their house. The couple admitted off cam that they had tried many brands of diapers but it was only Dr. P Adult Diapers that best suited her needs. They also related that they used to buy the two-piece packs only to fit their budget. But now, this would be least of their worries as they had been given a year's supply of Dr. P Adult Diapers.

Being a mother myself I can only imagine the difficulties that the family must be facing. This little story touched me because it reinforces the belief that goodness really exists in the world. Although God leads us into dark tunnels in our life, He also allows for rays of light to seep through sometimes, which will guide us for the rest of the journey. And hopefully, when we come out into the other end, we will be stronger and wiser, and brave enough to face new challenges in the world.

Congratulations to Kurt for being such a brave boy, and also to his mother for bringing out into the world a child who can set a good example for others to follow.

3HM1012
Dr. P

Treat mom at Mario's

THIS Mother's Day, surprise Mom with a treat. She deserves no less than a gustatory feast at Mario's. Take your pick from mouth-watering Herbed and Garlic Crusted Snapper with Dill Hollandaise, delectable, aromatic Moroccan Lemon Chicken with Mango Chutney, and juicy and luscious Green Peppercorn Beef Tenderloin with Vinegar-Glazed Leeks. Start the meal with Hearty Soup of the Day, and cap it with a dessert of yummy Toffee Silvanas.

A surprise gift awaits all moms. Enjoy the same old-fashioned superb cooking and service at Mario's Morato, located at Tomas Morato Avenue corner Scout Gandia in Quezon City and Upper Session Road, Baguio City.

Looking for the perfect gift for mom?

MOTHER'S Day is just around the corner and you may be searching high and low for the perfect gift to give your mothers-The Spa Gift Card.

Search no more for The Spa gift cards are here to save you. What greater way to give your mom than a well-deserved pampering treat at The Spa. The Spa gift card is a good-as-cash card that entitles your mom to personalize her own spa package and have the freedom to mix and match her choice of body treatment, massage therapy, facial and foot care services. It comes in P2000 denominations and is reloadable. Call The Spa's branches now and get them for your moms. The Spa branches are at Acropolis 80 E. Rodriguez Jr Avenue, Quezon City (634-2848/637-1935); Alabang Lower Ground, Alabang Town Center (850-3490/850-6604); Bel-air 50 Jupiter Street, near Paseo de Roxas, Bel-air Village, Makati (895-5858/895-6868); and at Greenbelt Ground Floor, Greenbelt 1 (840-1325/840-1326). E-mail thespa@thespa.com.ph.

Sweet dreams
are made of this...
Dulce de Leche Roll
DARI CREME Classic
Goldilocks
How Thoughtful. How Pinoy.

A delicious, melt-in-your-mouth vanilla sponge cake with lemon custard filling and decorated with luscious caramel and cream rosettes. Made creamier and more special with Dari Creme Classic.

This Mother's Day, give mom your love and the new **Dulce de Leche Roll**. It's the sweetest thing to do.

Ngayong Mother's Month, let the R&B Princess, Kyla, and the Soul Siren, Nina, serenade that special woman in your life through

PLDT ESPECIALLY FOR MOMS 101-143

"143 para kay Mommy!"

PLDT offers you a unique and creative way to show your love for your mom on this year's mother's day celebration, THE PLDT ESPECIALLY FOR MOMS 101-143.

This innovative service allows you to salute that very special woman in your life in a touching and different way.

Kyla records her songs, greetings and poems for PLDT Especially For Moms 101-143 voice service.

Without a doubt, Kyla and Nina, are the hottest young divas, and PLDT proudly features them this month.

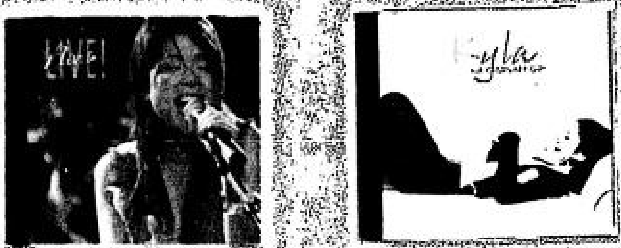
Listen to songs & poems for FREE!

Have Kyla or Nina perform a song or two for her, or listen to their personal rendition of selected poems that tells mommy how much you appreciate her sacrifices for you. The possibilities of telling her how much she is loved are endless.

Press 1 to listen and send

Special love songs by

Nina & Kyla



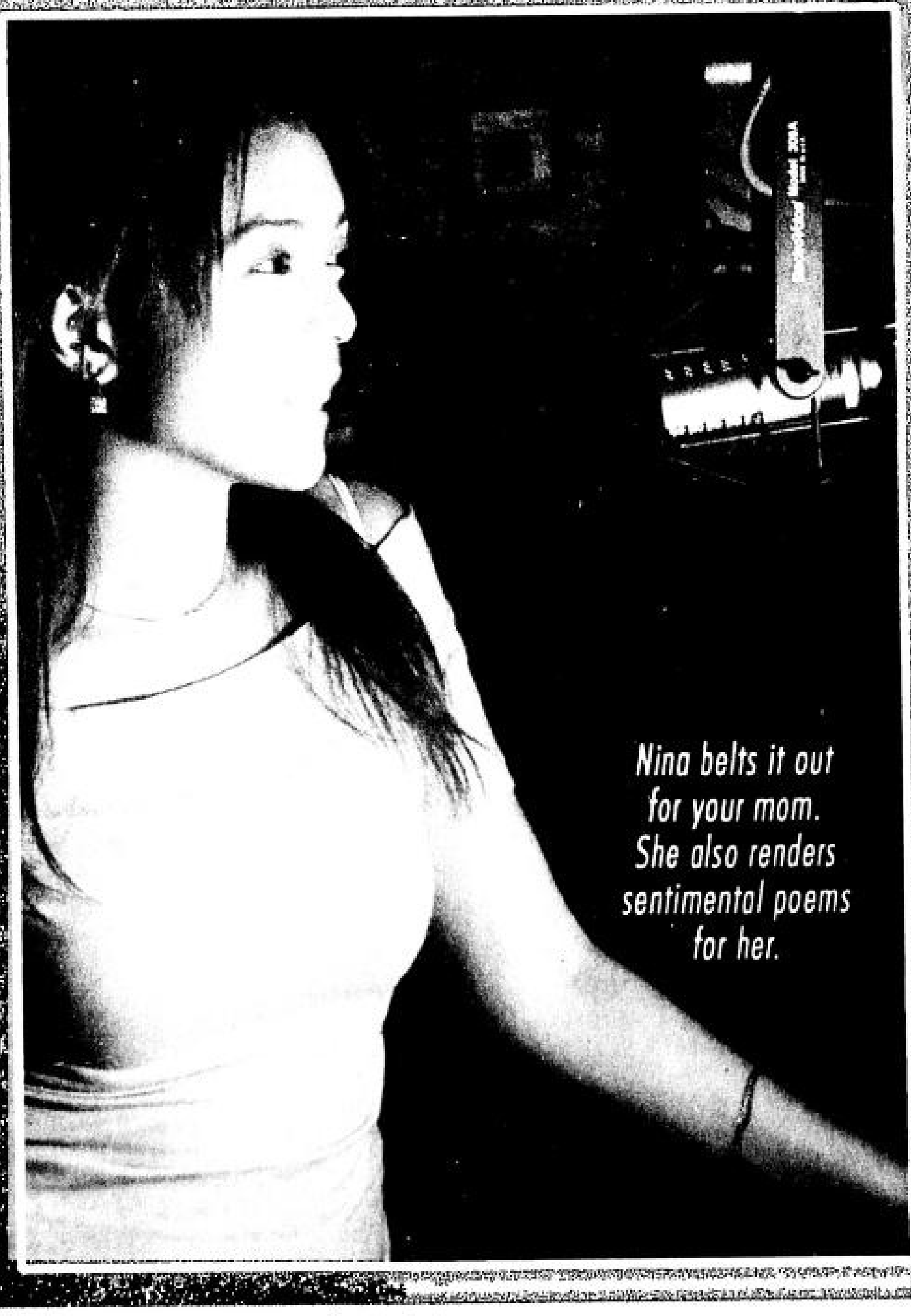
Featuring songs from their album "Love Moves," "Sunlight," "I Will Be There," "Because of You" and a lot more.

Press 2 to listen and send

Heart-warming poems read by

Kyla & Nina

A Precious Mother
A Treasure for Mother
Mother's Love
A Mother
As I Look Back



Nina belts it out for your mom. She also renders sentimental poems for her.

FOR ONLY P8.00 PER SEND, YOU CAN GREET MOM IN A VERY UNIQUE WAY.

Choose a song or a poem that you think will touch her heart. You may send it to her PLDT or SMART/TALK'N TEXT cellphone for only P8.00 per send using any PLDT landline.

Make it even more special by recording your own greeting and dedication to make it truly memorable for her.

So don't let this month
for mothers pass by
without you greeting her.
Call 101-143 now
and make that special
woman very happy.

Mama, this day's for you

'IVF' BABIES

The gift of life in a test tube

By Raquel P. Gomez

FORTY-TWO-YEAR-OLD Gwendolyn Buada successfully delivered a bouncing 7.4-pound baby boy by caesarian birth at Cardinal Santos Hospital on April 30 at exactly 7:29 a.m.

Her pregnancy, and her baby for that matter, was no ordinary occurrence. About 10 months ago, Gwendolyn, who had difficulty conceiving, went to see Dr. Greg Pastorfide, an OB-Gynecologist who started an In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) center. She underwent the IVF procedure, a method for conception of a human embryo outside the mother's body. After only a month, she became pregnant.

Happy and proud new mother Gwendolyn and her baby Alfrancis count themselves among the successful IVF cases done by Dr. Pastorfide at the Victory ART (Assisted Reproductive Technology) Clinic at the deck level of the Medical Plaza Building in Makati.

The IVF procedure has been around for more than two decades and already an established medical procedure abroad, particularly in the United States and Great Britain, where it originated. In the Philippines, it has only been recently introduced.

The Victory ART Clinic was put up by Pastorfide two and half years ago to help women having difficulty getting pregnant and had tried and exhausted several medical means to conceive but failed.

Help for women

"There are women who, despite a very long treatment, still cannot get pregnant. This is the main reason this IVF center was set up. I pity patients who I know can get pregnant but cannot. These women are actually not sterile but can be helped by an IVF procedure."

According to Pastorfide, the IVF procedure is recommended to women with certain conditions such as blocked fallopian tubes or pelvic endometriosis. It is also recommended to women who are in their 40s but with unexplained infertility.

His most recent patient, Gwendolyn and her husband Reynaldo spent 12 years trying all possible medical means to get pregnant. The couple was working in Saudi Arabia and decided to go back to the country after finishing their contract to undergo the IVF procedure.

"For example, a 40-year-old woman gets married and decides to have a child. For several months she tries but can't get pregnant. She is a very good candidate for an IVF procedure," says Pastorfide.

"Usually, when a woman reaches the age of 40, it is really very difficult for her to get pregnant. Her reproductive capability goes down from age 35 up."

Extraction of eggs

Pastorfide says the IVF procedure, which is quite an expensive method, should be the last option a woman should resort to.

He says women should seek first the "conservative" treatment. "A lot of patients, with proper diagnosis, therapy and management, will become pregnant. The only time they qualify for an IVF procedure is after they have gone through many cases of treatment failures. They've tried artificial insemination but still do not get pregnant, etc."

The Victory ART Clinic is a spacious facility with state-of-the-art medical equipment and laboratory. Here, Pastorfide with his medical team composed of an anesthesiologist, an embryologist and two nurses, conduct the IVF procedure.

The IVF procedure involves the extraction of eggs from the woman's reproductive organ, which Pastorfide executes in the operating room. In another room, sperm is extracted from the husband. The extracted substances are then handed over to the embryologist, and in the laboratory the miracle of life happens. The embryologist mixes the sperm with the egg in a Petri dish, and the fertilized egg becomes an embryo.

After two or three days, the woman goes back to the operating room for the implantation of the fertilized embryos into her uterine cavity. Then she waits for about two weeks to know if the pregnancy is a success.

Super ovulation

The IVF treatment is done for one month, corresponding to the normal menstrual cycle of a

GIFT/ P2

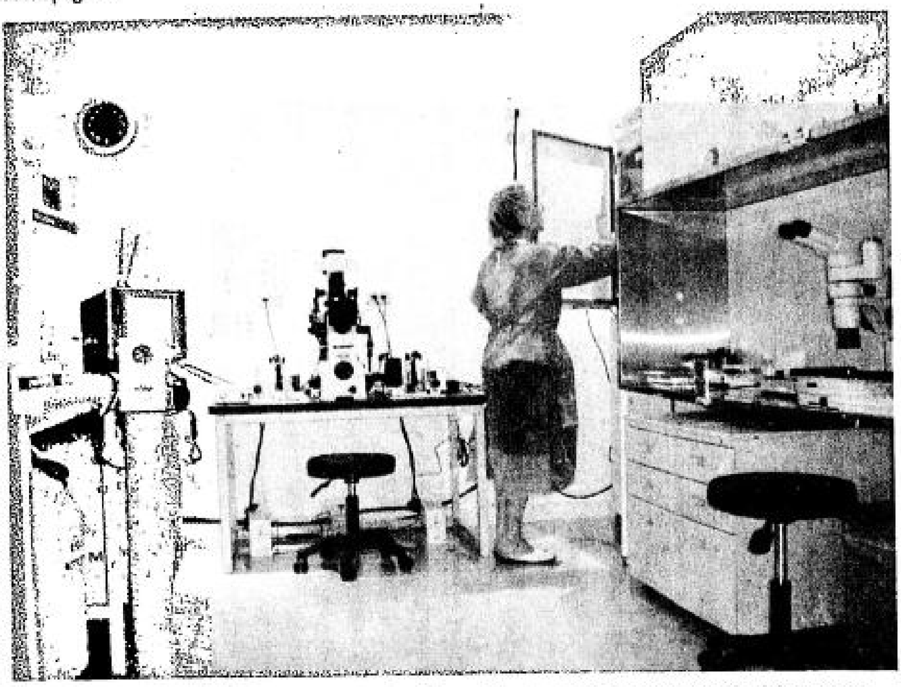
DR. GREG PASTORFIDE poses with the children who were conceived and born through the IVF procedure.

Happy Father's Day.

A Mother's Day message to all single moms from Kashieca

The gift of life in a test tube

From page P1



THE FERTILIZATION of the eggs extracted from the woman takes place in the laboratory under the handling and control of the embryologist.

woman. The treatment starts during the first or second day of the menstrual cycle.

For 10 days, she is injected fertility medication to induce the maturing of the follicles, part of the ovary that releases the egg.

Women who receive fertility medication usually produce more eggs than the normal number. In a natural menstrual cycle, a woman normally produces only one egg and it comes from only one of her two ovaries.

"The integral part of the IVF treatment is to make the woman produce super ovulation. Through medication, she will produce many follicles, the source of the eggs," explains Pastorfide.

Thirty-four hours after the final fertility medication, the follicles have matured and the eggs are ready for extraction.

"Approximately, the extraction of eggs takes place in the mid menstruation cycle of the woman. When we do the IVF treatment, we are trying to mimic the normal menstrual cycle. So the eggs develop in two weeks, then extracted, fertilized and re-implanted back to her uterus. And then we wait for two weeks."

"Basically the idea of the IVF procedure is it tries to bypass the natural meeting of the sperm and the egg in the fallopian tube, since that process, including fertilization, now takes place in the laboratory."

Ethical parameters

To increase the chance of a woman getting pregnant through the IVF procedure, Pastorfide says he usually implants two or three fertilized embryos in her uterus. "The moment you have done that, the incidence of pregnancy will be in the range of about 30 to 35 percent."

Pastorfide has been doing the IVF procedure for seven years. He took his fertility training from Harvard Medical School, and the IVF procedure from Singapore.

A COUPLE during consultation.

Since venturing into the IVF procedure, Pastorfide has delivered more than a hundred "IVF" babies.

In fact, the first "IVF" baby he has delivered from a woman from Pampanga is now 7 years old.

Technically speaking, the IVF procedure can be done on a woman as long as she menstruates. But ethical and moral parameters have been imposed on the method, particularly here in our country where Catholicism is the predominant religion.

"In the United States, they're more liberal, but they put a limit on the age of the woman," he says.

"Here, since we are a Catholic country, as much as possible we don't want to deviate from Catholic ways. That's the reason we don't accept donor sperm, donor eggs, or implant fertilized eggs to surrogate mothers."

In fact, he says they only accept cases for the IVF procedure from married couples only.

Pastorfide notes that there are now many infertility cases because of several factors, such as the lifestyle and the environment. He said most women today opt for a late marriage, or if they get married at all, postpone their pregnancy. Drinking affects a woman's fertility, but the real danger, according to Pastorfide, is smoking. There is also the presence of environmental toxins. The problem also lies in the partner, who may have conditions such as low sperm count or viscosity problems.

The Victory ART Clinic is only one of few IVF centers in the country that offers hope to women like Gwendolyn, the modern day Sarah or Elizabeth who are given the promised child not through a "miracle" but through an IVF.

A hearty reward for mom

EVERY day is a good day to return your mother's lifetime of affection, but there's one day that you set aside and give her more than the usual. This Mother's Day, take her to the newest hotel in Manila for a weekend stay or to dine at in any of its two premier restaurants.

To help you honor mom and celebrate this day of recognition for all mothers without missing out the great details, the Hyatt Hotel and Casino Manila has specially crafted packages and promotions.

Express your love by pampering your Mom with a weekend stay for only $81++ in a guest room or at the Regency Club at $111++ per night. The Mother's Day package includes: complimentary buffet breakfast for 2 at Market Café, a special turndown amenity, complimentary parking and late check-out until 2 p.m. For those staying in the Regency Club, enjoy special benefits such as: exclusive check-in/check-out at Regency Lounge, complimentary Continental breakfast, all day snack service and pre-dinner drinks and complimentary broadband Internet access at the Club Lounge.

Enjoy the cuisine of Li Li as it offers a Mother's Day promotion you simply can not ignore. Li Li Cantonese restaurant, which is known for serving one of the best dim sum in town offers an unlimited dim sum fare on this special day. For P980 per person, the set menu, which includes starters, wok fried dishes, vegetables, rice or noodle dish and dessert, compliments the dim sum fare.

A special buffet awaits you at the popular Market Café for lunch (11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.) and dinner (6 to 10 p.m.). Get the rounds of four show kitchens namely Western, Japanese, Chinese and Bakery prepared by master chefs.

Buffet price at P1,188++ for adults and children below 12 years of age get 50 percent off. Early bird patrons who dine from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. get a free buffet for the mother.

For those who prefer casual and relaxing lunch outdoors, bring the whole family for a day of swimming at the newly opened Club Oasis and a barbecue lunch. The lunch buffet features a delectable array of seafood and meats, salads, anti pasti and dessert, which is served between 12 noon to 2:30 p.m. in the pool bar area. The price for adults is P788++ and children at P394++.

This Mother's Day, the new Hyatt expresses our love by giving every mother who dines with a family member a special gift. In addition, a table of at least five persons will receive a bottle of Asti Spumante Sparkling Wine with compliments.

Let this day be unforgettable not just for mom but for the whole family as well. Make your reservations now by calling the Hyatt Hotel and Casino Manila at 245-1234.

DIM SUM fare at Li Li Cantonese restaurant.

What is IVF?

IN VITRO FERTILIZATION is a technique for conception of a human embryo outside the mother's body. Several ova, or eggs, are removed from the mother's body and placed in special laboratory culture dishes (Petri dishes); sperm from the father are then added.

If fertilization occurs, a fertilized ovum, after undergoing several cell divisions, is either transferred to the mother's or a surrogate mother's body for normal development in the uterus, or frozen for later implantation. Eggs can also now be frozen and fertilized later.

The procedure was first developed by Drs. Patrick C. Steptoe and Robert G. Edwards of Great Britain, where the first "test-tube baby" was born under their care in 1978.

The technique was devised for use in cases of infertility when the woman's fallopian tubes are damaged or the man's sperm count is low. It is also now used to enable prospective parents with other reproductive problems (e.g., inability to produce eggs, poor sperm quality, or endometriosis) to bear a child.

The technique has raised legal, ethical, and religious issues, including concerns regarding legal custody of frozen embryos following divorce. In embryo donation (also called embryo adoption), frozen embryos that are not needed by the mother are donated for implantation to a woman or couple who are infertile but wish to have, and are capable of bearing, children.

Ever since IVF was introduced, many countries have adopted the procedure. IVF centers have been established and many women resort to the procedure to bear children. Here is a rundown of recent news about IVF.

In Netherlands, a mix-up was reported in the fertilization process, when a white couple reported that the skin of one of the twins delivered by the wife started to darken. The woman's egg was mistakenly fertilized with her husband's sperm and with that of another donor. Two years after giving birth in December 1993, they told the hospital which then conducted a DNA test that confirmed the husband could not be the parent of the mixed-race child.

A 52-year-old Texan woman gave birth to her own grandchildren—a pair of twin girls—on March 2004. Marianne Thoms volunteered to be the surrogate mother in behalf of her son and daughter-in-law who could not give birth due to a scarring in her uterus. Thoms said the pregnancy was pretty even though it had been 28 years since she last gave birth.

On April 26, 2005, 25-year-old Teresa Anderson delivered five baby boys for a couple unable to have children. Anderson, a native of Arizona, agreed to be a surrogate mother for a fee of $15,000 but after delivering quintuplets—believed to be a record for a surrogate—decided to waive the sum.

In January, 2005, Romanian hospital officials say a 66-year-old woman in Bucharest had given birth to a baby girl.

Adriana Iliescu, who underwent fertility treatment for 9 years before becoming pregnant, is thought to be the oldest recorded mother.

The girl was born prematurely by Caesarean section after her twin sister died in the womb, the hospital said.

Iliescu told local television she had always wanted to be a mother but had been unable to conceive naturally.

In 2003, a 65-year-old Indian woman gave birth to a boy.

Schoolteacher Satyabhama Mahapatra from Nayagarh in Orissa had been impregnated with an egg from her 26-year-old niece that had been fertilized by her husband.

From yahoo encyclopedia and Maricar Tolosa

Good food and a good time for mom

TODAY is Mother's Day and the Lady of the House deserves a treat.

Chili's Grill & Bar joins the world in giving honor to all moms in the world. Special scented candles await moms who will dine in on this special day, as Chili's simple token of appreciation.

Give her a taste of Southwest American cooking. Chili's offers sumptuous steaks that are truly irresistible: Flame-grilled rib eye steak - seasoned and served with fresh veggies, loaded mashed potatoes and garlic toast; Rib-eye and Prawns - flame-grilled rib eye steak teamed with lime-grilled prawns served with rice, veggies and garlic toast; Beef Salpicao - melt-in-your-mouth steak tips marinated and grilled served with rice veggies and garlic toast; and Ranch and Fillet - beef tenderloin grilled to order and served with Awesome Blossom strings, loaded mashed potatoes, veggies and garlic toast.

She may also opt to try any of the six variants of the mouthwatering Big Mouth Burgers: Old timer - classic burger with mustard, shredded lettuce tomato, pickle and onion; Chipotle Bleu Cheese Bacon Burger - spicy and smoky with Chipotle pepper sauce, bleu cheese crumbles, smoked bacon, lettuce, tomato, pickles and bleu cheese dressing; Bacon Burger - topped with smoked bacon, cheddar cheese, mayo, shredded, lettuce, tomato and pickle; BBQ Ranch-smoked bacon, cheddar cheese, barbecue sauce, ranch dressing, lettuce, tomato and pickle; Mushroom Swiss - with fresh sautéed mushroom, Swiss cheese mayo shredded lettuce, tomato, and pickle; Ground Peppercorn - crusted with black pepper and spices, with shredded lettuce, tomato, pickle, and topped with Awesome Blossom strings and Bleu Cheese dressing. All Big mouth Burgers are grilled to order with your choice of sesame or whole wheat bun, and served with a generous helping of home style fries.

Make Mother's Day special for that Special Lady in your life. Bring her to any of Chili's branches: Missouri cor. Nevada Sts. In Northeast Greenhills; Greenbelt 1 in Ayala Center, Makati; and Tomas Morato Quezon City.

Huwarang Ina Awards to be integrated with Father's Day

THE NATION celebrates the country's Silver Anniversary Celebration of Mother's Day today, May 8 to be highlighted with the 25th Annual Huwarang Ina Awards (Outstanding Mothers of the Year).

Mother's Day is over a 4-decade-old celebration observed every second Sunday of May started in the United States by the late American civic leader Anna Jarvis, but in the Philippines it was only in 1980 when it was initially celebrated when energetic business tycoon Samie Lim of the Chamber of Philippine Department Stores and young civic leader Jonathan "Jake" Navea introduced the significance of the event.

Now on its 25th year, Navea founded the "Annual Gintong Ina Awards" project as an expression of his personal crusade to honor his late mother dean Nieves Nazareno-Navea and all other ideal mothers of the country through the Ideal Parents and Family Foundation and the National Mother's Day and Father's Day Council, while Lim complemented the successful observance of the celebration by way of motivating business establishments to come up with the celebration motif.

That same year, Navea initiated Father's Day, which was patterned after its universal date of celebration every third Sunday of June. After six years, in 1986, Navea lobbied Presidential Proclamation No. 266 signed by former President Corazon C. Aquino "declaring Mother's Day every second Sunday of May and Father's Day every third Sunday of June as national events in the Philippines."

To provide a more meaningful observance of Mother's Day in its silver anniversary, the 25th Annual Huwarang Ina Awards (formerly Gintong Ina Awards) chaired by dean Amelia S. Mapagu, Lions Gov. Leonida B. Ortiz and Rev. Dr. Sonia Y. Lim will be integrated with the National Father's Day Awards on June 19 at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC) at 4 p.m.

Nominations for outstanding mothers and fathers are still being accepted before May 15. Online nomination is accepted at www.consumersaward.com. For more details, call Mother's Day and Father's Day secretariat at 995-7509, 439-1842, 0915-4410502.

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Give mom the gift of health

THERE is no one in the world that we appreciate more than our very own mom. From the day we were born, she has been there to nurture, care and guide us in our journey through life. Whether our moms stay at home or working moms they are certainly our heroes now and for always.

This Mother's Day, let us make dear mom feel how thankful we are for everything she has done (and is still doing for us) by making this occasion the best day for her.

How can we make our moms feel more than special this Mother's Day? There is the usual Treat-Mom-To-A-Special-Meal, Give-Mom-Flowers and Don't-Let-Mom-Do-Any-Chore. This time, how about letting her know that her health is just as important to us? This is one way to give back her concern for our health through the years.

OKF Aloe Vera Juice pack is a fantastic way to show mom that her health is our concern while at the same time giving her a delicious, refreshing and healthy drink to beat the summer heat. This way, we make her feel extraordinary not just on Mother's Day but pretty much every day that she enjoys a glass of OKF Aloe Vera Juice.

What, we may be asking, is so special about Aloe Vera Juice, why not apple or grape juice instead? Aloe Vera's nutritional qualities and antioxidant properties, together with its natural anti-inflammatory and anti-microbial action, make it an amazing medicinal herb when taken internally. Aloe Vera prevents coronary heart disease, improves blood circulation, relieves gastrointestinal problems, works as an antioxidant, aids in digestion, is a natural laxative and aids in kidney and liver functions, just to name a few of its benefits.

Now what can be a better gift to mom than all those benefits rolled into one delicious and nutritious juice drink? OKF Aloe Vera Juice is clear, all natural, no sugar added, alternative health drink that not only tastes great but is easy on the pocket as well. It is also loaded with pulp bits that are high in calcium and vitamins C and E, powerful anti oxidants that improve the immune system function, promote skin health and protect the cardiovascular system. OKF Aloe Vera juice has a special formulation that makes the Juice a true thirst quencher with no sticky aftertaste.

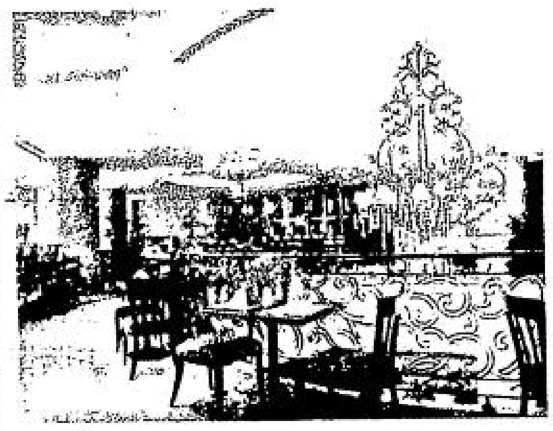
Having a glass of OKF Aloe Vera Juice could literally make all the difference to our mother's health. Wouldn't it be wonderful if that gift of health would come from her own children?

OKF Aloe Vera Juice is available in SM Supermarkets, Mercury Drug stores, Robinsons, Ever Supermarkets, Puregold, Waltermart and other major supermarkets and groceries nationwide.

For inquiries on OKF Aloe Vera Juice, call Genson Distribution Inc at 911-2981, 421-6135 or e-mail genson888@yahoo.com.

OKF Aloe Vera Juice pack is a fantastic way to show mom that her health is our concern while at the same time giving her a delicious, refreshing and healthy drink to beat the summer heat

The Bellevue Hotel marks mom's day



FOR ALL the work that she has done, mother deserves all the best. This Sunday, The Bellevue Hotel pays tribute to hard-working moms with its Mother's Day Buffet-a promo available only on May 8. Treating families to a special buffet at P690++ available for lunch or dinner, The Bellevue cooks up mouth-watering international specialties in its renowned restaurant Café d' Asie. The restaurant also offers Cake Reflections, featuring Japonaise Mango Torte-layers of scrumptious Japonaise with special mango filling. Giveaways also await all mothers when they avail themselves of the promo.

The Bellevue Hotel is Alabang's best-kept secret - the only business hotel located South of Metro Manila. Distinctive diners frequent the elegantly appointed Café d' Asie Asian Specialty Restaurant and the lively 20/20, an entertainment center with a music lounge, main and sports bar at the hotel's top floor. For inquiries, call 771-8181.

Marching to a New Teriyaki Beat
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KIKKOMAN
Teriyaki
BASTE & GLAZE
KIKKOMAN
Teriyaki
Marinade & SAUCE
with
Roasted Garlic

Sweet Savory Kikkoman Teriyaki Sauces–made from the famous naturally-brewed Kikkoman soy sauce. Great for marinating meats, poultry and seafood. No artificial colors and flavors.

Two New Exciting Teriyaki Flavors

Teriyaki Marinade and Sauce with Roasted Garlic
The appalizing aroma and wonderful flavor of roasted garlic adds a more familiar appeal to Teriyaki Lovers.

Easy to use, just marinate meat for 10 minutes then, grill or fry. Also good for Fried Rice and Stir Fried Vegetables.

Teriyaki Baste and Glaze
Makes your cooking easy and pleasurable. *Just brush directly onto meat or chicken while grilling, frying or barbecuing* for a mouth-watering flavor.

GRILLED CHICKEN TERIYAKI with ROASTED GARLIC

Ingredients:
4 chicken breast fillets
2 tsp grated ginger
1 cup Kikkoman Roasted Garlic Teriyaki Marinade and Sauce
325 g brown sugar
1 tbsp sesame oil
1/2 cup Kikkoman Teriyaki Baste and Glaze

Procedure:
1. Marinate the chicken in ginger, teriyaki sauce, brown sugar, and sesame oil overnight.
2. Preheat grill to medium high heat.
3. Grill marinated chicken for 6-8 minutes each side.
4. When cooked, brush chicken with teriyaki baste and glaze on all sides.
5. Serve with steamed rice. Makes 4 servings.

ENJOY TERIYAKI
KIKKOMAN
www.kikkoman.com

Mom is fabulous at Discovery Suites

TO THE world you might just be one person, but to one person you might just be the world. And that one person is your mother. Mother's Day is a time of commemoration and celebration for mom. It's a time of breakfast in bed, family gatherings, and crayon scribbled "I Love You's".

Discovery Suites knows how fabulous mothers are, and to celebrate, a wide range of fun-filled and memorable activities ongoing until May 8 are in store.

From May 6 to 8, a special room package awaits the most amazing woman in your life. For only P4,000++ for a junior suite, P4,500++ for a one-bedroom suite, P7,000++ for a two-bedroom suite and P9,000++ for a three-bedroom suite, the whole family can celebrate blissfully with her. This time, Mom won't even have to cook as a hearty complimentary buffet breakfast awaits at the Serendipity Lounge. She can use the gym and the swimming pool for free and may extend a 20-percent discount at the Discovery Spa for her entire family. All these and more will ensure that Moms get the best out of their weekend!

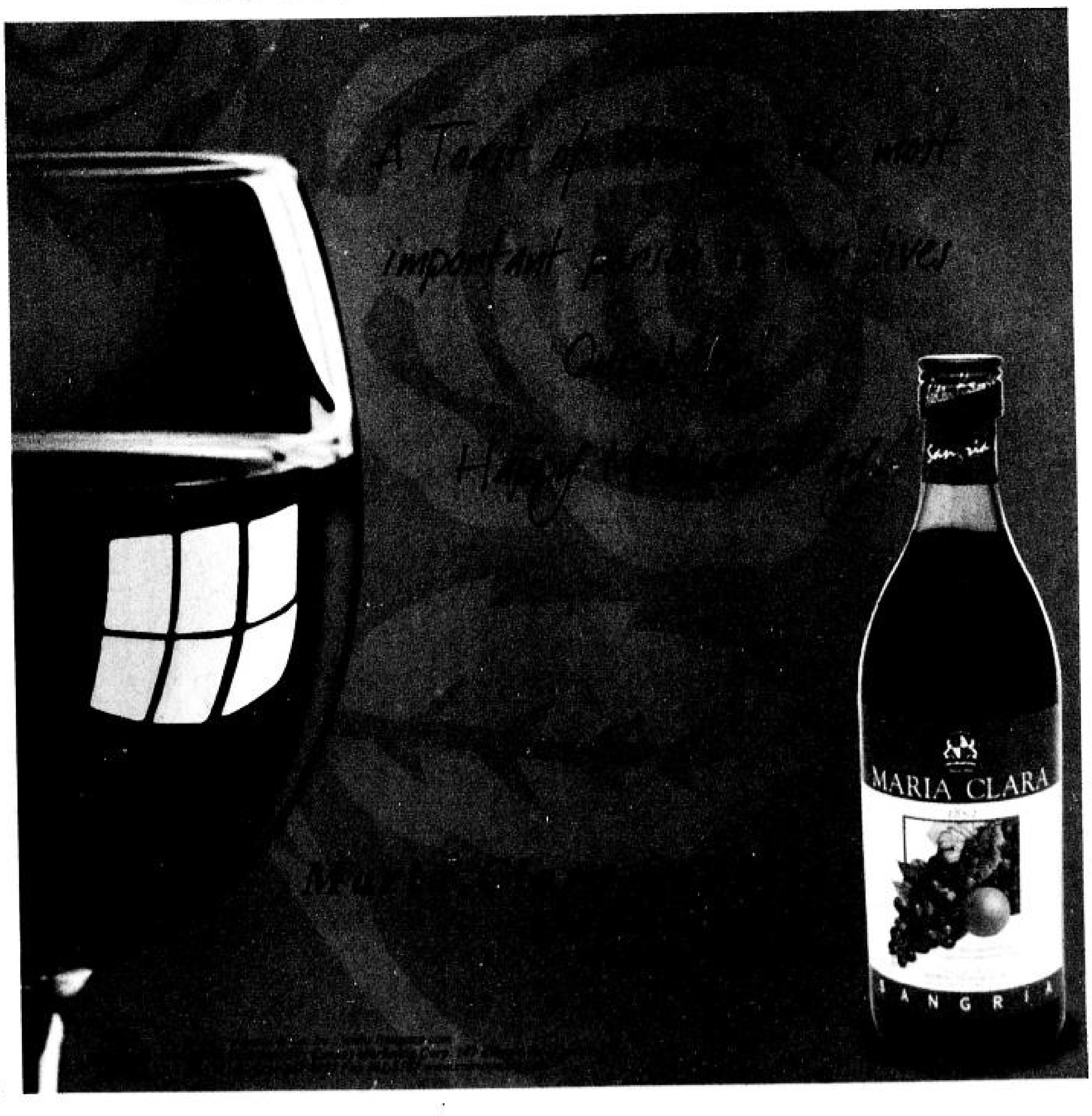
What's more, she'll receive complimentary treats including a massage, lunch buffet on Mother's Day at the Café Berrio, a glass of Asti Martini for turn down, a gift pack from L'Occitane and giveaways for her kids courtesy of Granny Goose and Alaska Choco. Moms availing themselves of the room package and lunch buffet on May 8 are automatically qualified to join the Mother's Day raffle and will get exclusive invites to all Mother's Day activities.

May 8 starts off with a 10 a.m. Thanksgiving Mass at the Discovery Center Lobby followed by a sumptuous lunch buffet at the Café Berrio from 12 nn to 2:30 p.m. for only P700++ per person. A Shu Uemura beauty seminar follows at 3 p.m., and a fabulous Sari-Sari fashion show, at 5 p.m., at the Serendipity Lounge, culminates the day. Display/sale of Sari-Sari clothes started on May 7.

Up for grabs during the raffle are gift certificates for an overnight stay at Discovery Suites, gift certificates for dinner at Cafe Berrio, a whole body relaxation package courtesy of Discovery Spa, an overnight stay gift certificate from Club Noah Palawan, and a Tissot watch as grand prize.

And while all this is taking place for mom's ultimate pleasure, kids can uplift their energies by visiting the kiddie corner with special appearances by the Care Bear mascots, Granny Goose and other fun characters. Entertaining games, excellent giveaways and a movie screening will likewise keep their sprits high.

Only Discovery Suites lets mom discover how special she really is. Celebrate motherhood, call 635-2222 for reservations.



THE IDD RATE THAT KEEPS YOU TALKING

This Mother's Day, give her a call.

And let her talk all she wants.

30¢/min. IDD

to over 200 countries

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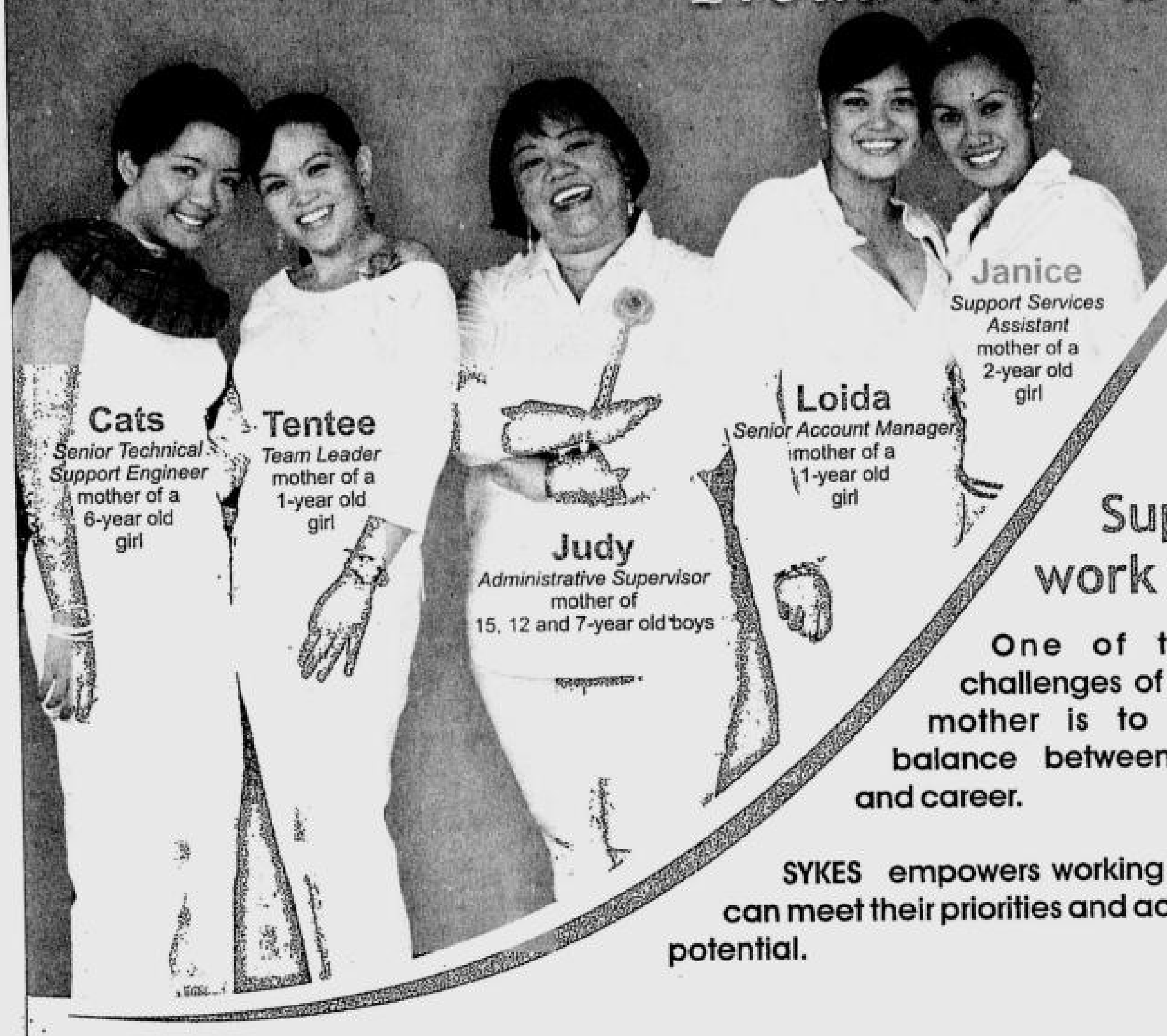
Cats
Senior Technical Support Engineer
mother of a 6-year old girl
Tentee
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mother of a 1-year old girl
Judy
Administrative Supervisor
mother of 15, 12 and 7-year old boys
Loida
Senior Account Manager
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- Data Architects
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34/F Burgundy Corporate Tower
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Makati City 1200

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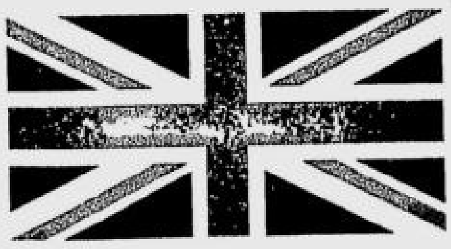

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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

NOTICE OF JOB VACANCY

VACANCY NO. : 2005/04
DATE ISSUED : 8 May 2005
CLOSING DATE: 20 May 2005

POST TITLE : Procurement Associate
ENTRY LEVEL : G6 step 1
OFFICE AND LOCATION : UNDP Philippines in Manila
TYPE OF APPOINTMENT : Fixed-term

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Under the overall direction of the Deputy Resident Representative (DRR) and the direct supervision and guidance of the Manager of the Development Support Services Center (DSSC), the DSSC Procurement Associate is responsible for ensuring the transparency, efficiency and fairness of each and every procurement service rendered to internal clients in the UNDP Country Office and external clients in the UNDP Projects.

He/She shall be working closely with colleagues in the unit, finance unit, programme units, NEX/DEX project counterparts, colleagues from the UNDP Headquarters and other UNDP Country Offices, other UN Agencies, and members of various knowledge networks, for the performance of regular support services, resolution of complex procurement-related issues, information exchange and knowledge sharing.

The Procurement Associate can supervise interns, clerical and support staff of the Procurement Unit. The Procurement Associate promotes a client, quality and results-oriented approach. As part of a service unit in the CO, he/she shall constantly deliver all services, outputs and tasks effectively, efficiently and in a manner that is free from flaws, delays, errors, or losses to the organization, and not leading to any complains that are solely attributable to him/her, while consistently utilizing all applicable and existing UNDP systems (e.g., Atlas, electronic bidding system etc.) and ensuring full implementation of all appropriate policies, procedures, rules, regulations and internal controls.

(1) **Procurement.** Manages, facilitates, and conducts the procurement of goods (from simple to complex) and services (individual or corporate consultants, service providers, etc.) while ensuring the consistent enforcement of, and full compliance to, the appropriate rules, regulations, policies, and procedures required by UNDP, its manuals (Procurement Manual, Finance Manual, NEX Manual, etc), tools and systems (Atlas PO Module, etc.)

The above will be accomplished focusing on achievement of the following:

- ☐ *Preparation of procurement plans for the office and projects and their implementation monitoring.*
- ☐ *Organization of procurement processes including preparation and conduct of request for quotations, invitation to bids or request for proposals, receipt of quotations, bids or proposals, their evaluation, negotiation of certain conditions of contracts in full compliance with UNDP rules and regulations.*
- ☐ *Preparation of Purchase orders and contracts in and outside Atlas, preparation of Recurring Purchase orders for contracting of services, vendors creation in Atlas.*
- ☐ *Preparation of submissions to the Contract, Asset and Procurement Committee (CAP) and Advisory Committee on Procurement (ACP).*
- ☐ *Implementation of the internal control system that ensures that Purchase orders are duly prepared and dispatched. Timely corrective actions on POs with budget check errors and other problems.*
- ☐ *Presentation of reports on procurement in the CO.*
- ☐ *Records, monitors, and tracks all DSSC transactions, billings to all clients, and support costs, for the purpose of ensuring full conversion of DSSC services into actual income for the Country Office through compliance with the latest cost-recovery policy approved and mandated by UNDP-HQ and the CO;*
- ☐ *Implementation of joint procurement processes for the UN Agencies.*

(2) **Recruitment.** Manages, facilitates and conducts the recruitment of international/national professionals and staff required in various projects while ensuring the consistent enforcement and application of the appropriate rules, regulations, policies and procedures prescribed in the UNDP manuals.

(3) **Events Management.** Manages, coordinates with all parties involved, and arranges comprehensively for the conduct of various events such as training, fellowships, missions and study tours as may be required by NEX/DEX Projects, including organization of all logistical requirements (airfare, DSA computation, PO preparation, vehicle reservation, hotel bookings, etc.);

(4) **Advisory and Knowledge Sharing.** Advocates/Promotes DSSC Services, addresses issues, responds to queries, provides advises, and conducts presentations, briefing, training to colleagues, partners and clients on procurement, recruitment, organizational/financial arrangements, and all other information relevant and inherent to the delivery of DSSC Services.

(5) **Asset Management.** Ensures proper organization of documentations and management of Contracts, Assets and Procurement (CAP) Committee meetings, including rendering of support to the conduct/implementation of physical inventory and verification control of assets, specially those in the custody of NEX Projects;

(6) **File/Records Management.** Ensures implementation of a reliable sourcing strategy by managing, updating, safekeeping, and properly maintaining both the DSSC online database/roster, as well as hard files and contracts of all consultants (individual and corporate), personnel files of the project staff, suppliers of goods, including their previous performance evaluation results. This task shall also include file management, safekeeping, and monitoring of expiration of technical and financial bids, bid bonds, etc.; and

(7) **Others.** Performs all other auxillary functions required in the pursuit of the unit's functions and the organization's thrusts and objectives in general.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- Bachelor's degree in Business, Public Administration, Economics, or other related fields
- Specialized or formal training in procurement would be desirable, but it is not a requirement.
- At least two (2) years work experience in procurement and/or providing administrative support services to projects, preferably in an international organization environment;
- At least two (2) years of progressively responsible experience in the delivery of services;
- Experience in the UN system, particularly in supporting nationally executed projects, definitely an advantage, but not required.
- Hands-on experience in the use of Atlas (ERP System) also an advantage, but not required.
- Outstanding written and oral skills in the English language and the national language of the duty station (Filipino/Tagalog).
- Computer literacy, proficiency in the use of various software applications (MS Word, MS Project, Excel, etc.), advance knowledge of automated procurement systems, experience in handling of web based management systems.

Applicants are requested to complete the UN Personal History Form (P.11), available in our website www.undp.org.ph/jobs/ indicating the Vacancy No. and Post Title on or before 20 May 2005, and send to:

Human Resources Management Unit
United Nations Development Programme
30th Floor, Yuchengco Tower, RCBC Plaza
1226 Ayala Avenue, Makati City

Kindly note that only completed P11 forms will be reviewed.
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5. With strong analytical, marketing & customer handling skills;
6. With excellent communication skills, both oral and written;
7. Willing to be assigned anywhere in Northern Luzon;
8. Proficient in windows – Microsoft application

Interested applicants may submit their application letter with resumé, 2x2 picture, and a copy of Transcript of Records to:

The Personnel Department
#809 J.P. Rizal Street, Makati City 1200
Tel. Nos. 899-8686 loc. 302/304/305

Or e-mail us at:

daisy.yatco@lbcbank.ph

We are a wholesale operation of both local and imported hardware products with a nationwide distribution. The company boasts of three satellite branches in the Philippines located in the three major island groups Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. As part of our expansion program, we are currently in need of dynamic and assertive individual to fill in the position of:

SALES TEAM MANAGER

Requirements :

- ✓ Male / Female (Single or Married)
- ✓ 28 years old & above
- ✓ 3 years & above field sales experience
- ✓ 2 years sales supervisory experience
- ✓ With experience in handling a sales group
- ✓ Strong leadership skills
- ✓ Excellent presentation skills

COLLECTOR / CREDIT INVESTIGATOR

Requirements :

- ✓ Male (Single or Married)
- ✓ Between 24 to 35 years old
- ✓ College graduate of any four year course
- ✓ At least 1 year experience in credit investigation and collection function
- ✓ Willing to travel
- ✓ Preferably knows how to drive a motorcycle

SALESMAN / SALESWOMAN

Requirements:

- ✓ Male / Female (Single or Married)
- ✓ Between 24 to 35 years old
- ✓ College graduate of any four year course
- ✓ At least 1-2 years experience in any consumer products.
- ✓ Experience in handling dealers will be an advantage.
- ✓ Willing to travel

For Visayas and Mindanao applicants, you may send your resumé with contact number to our designated Postal Office Box No. Those who will be qualified will be interviewed in our Visayas and Mindanao Offices.

Applicants are requested to send their comprehensive resumé with recent photo by e-mail to : mjane0823@yahoo.com or by mail to : Box 100 c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer, 5th Floor Building B, Edsa, Mandaluyong City

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PROPERTY MANAGER

- At least 5 years experience in property management
- Not over 40 years old, graduate of any business or Eng'g. course
- Proficient in computer software application & can relate well with all levels in a business organization
- Chinese speaking an advantage
- Chosen candidate will be in-charge of the ff:
  - Full utilization of the buildings & other properties
  - Tenant relations & administration, acts as leasing officer
  - Custodian of all property records
  - Property up-keep, security & safety & its maintenance

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE (For Manila & Cebu)

- M/F between 25-30 years old, at least 2 years sales experience
- Graduate of any business related course or Architecture
- Experience in institutional or corporate sales an advantage

MERCHANDISING STAFF

- Preferably Female, Single, at least 24 years of age
- Marketing/Customs Admin. graduate, computer literate
- 1-2 years experience in importation, hardworking & willing to travel
- Can speak, read & write Chinese (Mandarin, Cantonese, Fookien dialects)
- Can communicate well in English, has marketing & negotiating skills
- Familiar with furniture industry a plus factor
- Knowledgeable in bank importation procedures, customs requirements & shipping line/freight forwarder coordination

Interested applicants may apply in person or send resumé with latest 2x2 picture to:

HR Department
CLC Marketing Ventures Corp.
114 Sauyo Road, Novaliches, Q.C.
E-mail at: hrd@clcmv.com.ph

A German company processing steel and wood for agriculture, architecture, automotive, furniture and other sectors is searching for a professional and experienced

Managing Director

with the following qualifications:

- Male/Female with at least 5-8 years experience in managing, controlling and developing business of a company
- technical experience on metal processing and able to read construction plans
- excellent marketing skills
- capable of calculating, selling, buying material, logistics, among others
- ability to communicate in the German language, an advantage
- computer literate

Applicants should submit their CV with photo by email to:

European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines (ECCP)
19F Philippine AXA Life Centre, Sen. Gil.J Puyat. Ave. Makati City
Tel: 8451324 Fax: 8451395 E-mail: constantino@eccp.com
Attention: Gerry D. Constantino

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Address:

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- ➢ Highly aggressive and motivated with a Strategic/Process background
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- ➢ At least 8 to 10 years of Program/Account/Operations Management experience, preferably gained from a contact center managing over 500 Customer Service Professionals or currently handling an executive position in a non-contact center environment
- ➢ Very strong background in client relationship management
- ➢ Needs to understand correlation between quality results and financial figures .
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- ○ preferably residing in Baguio City
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- Must be highly analytical and results-oriented
- Must be proficient in oral and written communication
- Preferably with experience in a supervisory position

DISPATCHING OFFICER
- Male, between 23-28 years old
- Must be college graduate of any course
- Must have at least one (1) year of related work experience
- Must have strong leadership skills
- Must be proficient in MS Office Applications (Excel/Word/Powerpoint)
- Must be willing to work in rotating shifts

PURCHASING OFFICER
- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Commerce or any business course
- Preferably male, between 25-30 years old
- Must have at least three (3) years supervisory experience in Purchasing Department
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P.O. Box 1294, MCPO, 1252 Makati City

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- At least 2 to 3 years experience in bookkeeping
- Familiar with preparation of reports for BIR and SEC submission
- Computer literate

Three (3) Telemarketers

- With at least 6 months to 1 year experience in telemarketing
- Pleasant personality
- Computer literate

Applicants must preferably be residents of either Las Pinas or Parañaque.
Please send your resume together with the following 1x1 ID picture, transcript of records and NBI clearance to the address below:

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Email: manilaoverseas@tri-isys.com

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- ☐ Familiar with the latest software used for creative designs

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- ☐ Not more than 35 years of age
- ☐ Graduate of Behavioral Science
- ☐ Can design, develop and conduct TNA and Management Development Programs
- ☐ Excellent in communication and training skills
- ☐ Computer literate; with expertise in MS Powerpoint

OUTLET HEAD

- ☐ Male/Female; not more than 30 years of age
- ☐ Graduate of any four-year business related course
- ☐ With at least 3 years managerial experience in fast food establishment/quick service restaurant
- ☐ Willing to work on shifting schedules

MANAGEMENT TRAINEE

- ☐ Not more than 28 years of age
- ☐ Graduate of any 4 year business course
- ☐ With at least 6 months supervisory experience in any fast food establishment
- ☐ Team player and accustomed to work under pressure
- ☐ Willing to go intensive training

TECHNICAL STAFF ENGINEER

- ☐ Male; not more than 35 years of age
- ☐ Experience in preventive maintenance program is a must.
- ☐ BS Mechanical Engineering Graduate (Preferably Licensed)
- ☐ Can conduct equipment performance test.

ACCOUNTING CLERKS

- ☐ Female; 21-28 years old
- ☐ Graduate of BS Accountancy; have at least attended CPA review
- ☐ With comprehensive computer background
- ☐ Preferably with work experience in fund monitoring
- ☐ Willing to undergo field assignments

Interested applicants are requested to apply in person or send comprehensive resume with transcript of records, most recent ID picture, certificate / clearance(s) from previous employer to:

Personnel Department
733 Aurora Blvd., Quezon City
(In front of Old Pepsi Plant)
E-mail address: hrd_job_ads@yahoo.com
Look for: Ms. Irma M. Victoria or Ms. Eya S. Palad

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sportshouse is in need of a team of dynamic and aggresive individuals for the following positions:

Accounting Head / Supervisors / Purchasing Assistants / Marketing Assistants

Accounting Head:

- ✓ Female
- ✓ Accounting graduate
- ✓ 25-35 years old
- ✓ With 2 (two) years experience on the same capacity
- ✓ Knows how to prepare Financial report
- ✓ Possesses good working attitude and is proactive
- ✓ Willing to do multi-task when needed

Supervisor:

- ✓ Male or Female; at least 5'6" for male and 5'3" for Female and college graduate
- ✓ Preferably single; willing to be assigned in any branch
- ✓ 25-32 years old
- ✓ Physically fit
- ✓ Analytical and with good numerical skills
- ✓ With experience in handling a retailing business on the same capacity for at least 2 (two) years
- ✓ Willing to do multi-task when needed

Purchasing Assistant:

- ✓ Male; at least 5'3" and college graduate
- ✓ With 1 (one) year purchasing experience
- ✓ Willing to do multi-task

Marketing Assistant:

- ✓ Female; at least 5'3" and college graduate
- ✓ with 1 (one) year marketing experience
- ✓ Willing to do multi-task

Please mail your resumé with 2x2 picture at:

Sportshouse Training Department
c/o LINO's Restaurant 3rd Floor Ali Mall
Araneta Center, Cubao, Quezon City
Previous applicants need not apply.
We will only reply to qualified applicants.

We are Urgently in need of:

WAITER and COOK

Qualifications:

- ➢ Male / Female, 23 – 28 yrs old (Waiter)
- ➢ Male, at least 27 yrs old and above (Cook)
- ➢ At least 5'6 inches and above
- ➢ At least College Level
- ➢ Can Speak and Understand English Well
- ➢ At least 2 yrs experience in Waitering on Restaurant & Banquet Operation (Fine Dining)
- ➢ At least 2 yrs experience on Hot & Cold Food Section
- ➢ Hard Working and with full dedication to the job, efficient and responsible.
- ➢ Can do Multi-tasking with minimum supervision
- ➢ Flexible Time Schedule

Qualified applicants may send their detail resumé to:

PARQUE ESPAÑA RESIDENCE HOTEL
Food & Beverage Department
5309 East Asia Drive, Alabang, FCC, Muntinlupa City
or send it through email at parqueespana@hli.com.ph

A dynamic and progressive company providing logistics services to multinational companies is in need of an:

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Knowledgeable in all aspects of secretarial job including some Administrative responsibilities.

Submit resumé to:
INVENTORY EXCHANGE CENTER, INC. (INEX)
By Mail - S-603, Ayala Life-FGU Center, Madrigal Bus. Park, Alabang, Muntinlupa City, 1770
E-Mail - inex@compass.com.ph
Fax - 809-0781

A-M PHIL PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CORP.
POEA - 132-LB-081304-PL
JOB OPENING IN **QATAR**
ALMARJ SERVICES

PROJECT MANAGER FOR BLDG. **(4)**
CONSTRUCTION MANAGER (5)
- 15-20 YEARS OF EXP.
- Experience in Large complex structures, High rise Towers

PLANNING ENGINEER (4)
- Cost control in bldg. & Infrastructure proj. / Primavera

ESTIMATOR/QUANTITY SURVEYOR (5)
- Capable of independently handling the Tendering, Pricing Cost Breakdown, Quantity Surveying

SITE ENGINEER (6)
- Capable of handling site independently on Structures & Finishing works

SAFETY ENGINEER (4)
- Capable of handling the QA/QC & Safety aspects
- ISO 9001 knowledge preferably

LAND SURVEYOR (6)
- Construction building, High rise Towers, Villas

AIR CONDITIONING (HVAC) ENGINEER (2)
- 15 years and above in installation of central plants, cost estimation and material take off.

PLUMBING ENGINEER (2)
- 10 years and above exp. in technical office and construction, High rise Towers, Large complexes

MATERIAL ENGINEER (1)
- Knowledge in building materials, testing & Quality Procedures B-S/ ASTM Codes, Concrete & Steel Testing & Evaluation

PIPE AND A/C WELDERS (7)
A/C PIPE FITTER (7)
DUCT ERECTOR, FABRICATOR AND INSULATOR (20)
- Experience in HVAC system, High rise Towers and Industrial

QUALIFICATION: MINIMUM OF 7 YEARS EXPERIENCE

SHUTTERING CARPENTER (50)
STEEL FIXER (30)
MASON (30)
QUALIFICATION: AT LEAST 5 YEARS EXPERIENCE/TRADE TEST CERT.

EXCAVATOR OPERATOR (25) w/ TRADE TEST
LOADER OPERATOR (10) w/ TRADE TEST
GRADER OPERATOR (5) w/ TRADE TEST
TOWER CRANE ERECTION MECHANIC (6)
TOWER CRANE AUTO ELECTRICIAN (3)
MOBILE CRANE OPERATOR (4) w/ TRADE TEST
HEAVY EQUIPMENT HYDRAULIC MECHANIC (6)
HEAVY EQUIPMENT AUTO ELECTRICAL (5)
HEAVY TRUCK MECHANICS (6)
HEAVY TRUCK AUTO ELECTRICIANS (2)
QUALIFICATION: 10-12 YRS INLAND EXP/ GULF RETURNEE

UNSKILLED LABOURS (50)
QUALIFICATION: HEALTHY & BELOW 35 YRS OLD

Pls. Apply personally & bring the ff: 2 sets of Resumé, 4 pcs 2x2 colored pictures, Diploma (high school/college), Copy of passport, NBI, Cert. of employment at:

A-M PHIL. PROFESSIONAL SRVS. CORP.
#34 MAYA ST. MARVILLE PARK I ANTIPOLO, CITY
(IN-FRONT OF YNARES CENTER) **Tel. 630-0476** Fax 696-3470
Email:amphilpro@aol.com
* office open Monday-Friday 9 am - 6 p.m.

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INTERNATIONAL MARKETING ALLIANCE PMAC PACIFIC CORPORATION

A foreign company engaged in the business of Marketing Business Services of Foreign Companies through telecommunications is in urgent need of:

TELESALES REPRESENTATIVES

BASIC SALARY ++

Basic Responsibilities:

- ☐ General Marketing through telecommunications to prospective clients.

Qualifications:

- ☐ Male or Female 20-45 years old, work experience in Inbound or Outbound call centers and or customer service is an advantage. Must be confident, self-motivated and fluent in spoken English, must have excellent interpersonal skills and reasoning ability.

Initial interview shall be conducted on the phone, for initial screening please call.

0915-447-4567 Between 2 p.m. & 7 p.m. Mon-Fri

TEACH IN THE U.S.

We have been commissioned by a School District in the US to conduct a pre-screening of qualified teachers for various teaching positions for School Year 2006-07.

MATH & SCIENCE TEACHERS

Minimum 2 years of teaching experience. A Bachelor's Degree in Education major in Math or Science. An Excellent Command of the English language is a must.

SPED TEACHERS

Minimum 2 years of teaching experience. A Bachelor's Degree in Education with at least 27 units in SPED. An Excellent Command of the English language is a must.

All qualified candidates may call our office for an initial assessment

(02) 746-2493

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BAKELS

'Thinking globally, working locally'

We are a multinational company and a leading global supplier of premium bakery and confectionery ingredients. Our brands are recognized market leaders in the international and local baking scene. They are products of our Group's extensive experience in formulating, manufacturing and marketing bakery and confectionery ingredients, which spans over a century.

Our prominence in the Philippine market is backed by over two decades of intensive interaction with local bakers and our global network represented in more than 120 countries in 5 continents.

Our core competence is understanding our customers' needs and providing them products, technical support and new technologies to grow their business.

We are expanding our operations locally and are in urgent need of:

TECHNICAL SALES REPRESENTATIVES (BAKING TECHNICIANS)

Because we believe that our success is closely linked with our people, we invite young, dynamic and goal-oriented individuals who shall be responsible for aggressive sales and marketing activities in strategic areas nationwide. Only applicants who possess the following qualifications are invited to apply:

- Graduate of BS Food Technology or any related Food Science course
- Selling experience with bakery ingredients preferred, but not required
- Excellent communication skills
- Pleasing personality
- Between 22 to 30 years old
- Must possess valid driver's license
- Willing to be assigned in GMA, Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao

Applicants may send their resumé on or before 27 May 2005 to:

The General Manager
BAKELS PHILIPPINES, INC.
Suites 601 & 602, Raffles Corporate Center
Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center, 1605 Pasig City
Tel. No. 915-0372 to 74; Fax No. 915-0375

Or e-mail to: bakels.phil@bakelsph.com
Websites: www.bakelsph.com; ww.bakels.com

CHINA Oceanis Group Ltd ("COG") is a company that specializes in the investment building operation of public aquarium/oceanarium attractions. The Group will be building a state-of-the-art Ocean Park in Manila and is looking for suitable candidates to fill the following positions:

PROJECT/DESIGN ENGINEERS

- Minimum 3 years experience in mechanical & electrical services preferably from a consultancy design construction environment
- Minimum qualification – Diploma holder in mechanical & electrical engineering or related discipline
- Skilled in AutoCAD software (Mechanical Desktop) is a MUST
- Knowledge in construction of swimming pool or installations involving usage of large fluid flow will be an added advantage

ASSISTANT CURATORS

- Able to lead a group of aquarists under his/her charge
- Marine biologist graduated from a recognized university
- Minimum 3 years hand-on working experience
- Able to liaise with government departments on CITIES requirements and documentation
- SCUBA diving certificate will be an added advantage
- Presently working in the government sector/ public aquarium are most welcome

CRAFTSMEN/ARTISANS

- Self motivated and talented practicing artist
- Able to work on fiberglass mould developing rock works and marine seascapes
- Job experience related to marine handicraft will be an added advantage
- Must be a team player

Interested applicants can personally submit their resumé w/ recent photo to **Vega Architects + Associates** at 8070 Estrella corner Tanguille Streets, San Antonio Village, Makati City or email to c_oceanis@yahoo.com

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International Rectifier

International Rectifier is a pioneer and world leader in advanced power management technology, from analog and mixed signal ICs to advanced circuit devices, power systems, and components.

FACTORY SUPPLY CHAIN PLANNER

Job Requirements

- BS in Industrial Engineering or BA in Supply Chain Management.
- Minimum 2 years experience in supply chain management (logistics, planning & materials).
- Experience in high volume semiconductor industry.
- Experience in MRP/ERP systems.
- Excellent verbal and written communications.
- Excellent analytical skills.
- Problem solving, leadership and teamwork skills are required
- Excellent database management skills.
- Customer oriented.
- Flexibility in working hours.
- Willing to travel as needed (preferably w/ valid US visa).

The remuneration package and benefits will commensurate with the qualifications and experience of the selected candidates. Interested candidates may send resumé to irsea2005@yahoo.com. (Only short-listed candidates will be notified)

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Kodak

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Imagine a career in Kodak.
You can now make it a reality.

Kodak, the World's Leader in Imaging, is looking for dynamic individuals to join their equally dynamic business

For more than 120 years, KODAK has defined the world of imaging. Now, it is paving the way for infoimaging---where image science and information technology converge in ways that were never before possible.

Now is the exciting time to join us!

Account Managers

We need account managers to be assigned in Visayas (Cebu)

- A graduate of a Business, Industrial Management, Management Engineering or Marketing course
- Has 2-3 years experience in sales, preferably in consumer or IT industry
- Preferably has adequate understanding of the imaging business, products and services and the customers' business
- Creative and dynamic, and with initiative and good independent judgment
- Fluent in both oral and written communications
- With excellent interpersonal skills and can immediately establish rapport with a broad range of people
- Willing to travel or based anywhere in the Philippines

Accounting Assistant

- Has a college degree in Accounting; Professional certification (CPA) is an advantage
- Has at least one year experience in an accounting function
- Well versed in accounting principles and practices
- Proficient in manual and automated accounting systems, computer operations and applications
- Analytical and has the ability to work with details
- With high degree of integrity and interpersonal skills
- Has good organizational and communication skills
- A team player
- Willing and able to work long hours

Cashier

- Has a business degree, preferably in Accounting
- Has at least one year experience in the same function
- Proficient in computer applications (Microsoft office)
- Analytical and has the ability to work with details
- With high degree of integrity and interpersonal skills
- Has good organizational and communication skills
- A team player

Send your comprehensive resumé, transcript of records and 2x2 Kodak picture to:

KODAK PHILIPPINES, LTD.
Human Resources Department
2247 Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City

Deadline of submission of applications will be on May 12, 2005.

FAR EASTERN UNIVERSITY

Nicanor Reyes (Morayta) Street, Manila
Computer Services Department

Announces openings for the following positions:

Help Desk & Administrative Section Head

Qualifications:

- graduate of any 4 year Computer course
- articulate and proficient in composing technical and user-level documentation
- proficient in the use of Windows and MS Office tools
- must have at least one year experience in a Help Desk or similar environment
- excellent health

Programmers

Qualifications:

- graduate of any 4 year Computer course
- programming Skills in VB/ASP or PHP
- knowledge in any relational DBMS
- must have at least 2 years related experience
- male, 24 to 28 years old
- good command of the English language
- excellent health

LAN Application Support

Qualifications:

- graduate of any 4 year Computer course
- administer any of: Windows 2000, Linux, Hub switches, HP-UX and Networking
- must have at least 1 year related experience
- male, 24 to 28 years old
- good command of the English language
- excellent health

Network Support Staff

Qualifications:

- graduate of any 4 year Computer course
- familiar with Hardware and Software troubleshooting
- must have at least 1 year related experience
- male, 24 to 28 years old
- good command of the English language
- excellent health

Please send letter of application, resume, copies of transcript of records, diploma, other credentials and photo to:

PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT
4th Floor, Administration Building
Far Eastern University
www.feu.edu.ph

Telephone number and fax: 735-0041
E-mail: jcnicer@yahoo.com

TECHNICAL

GROWTH WITH EQUITY IN MINDANAO (GEM) PROGRAM
A Project of the United States Agency for International Development
The General Contractor is THE LOUIS BERGER GROUP, INC.
Tel: (6382) 225-1569 • Fax: (6382) 225-1479
USAID Contract No: 492-C-00-02-00018-00

URGENT REQUIREMENT

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

A United States consulting company contracted by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to implement the Growth with Equity in Mindanao (GEM) Program, is seeking expressions of interest for the position of Program Coordinator for its **Congressional Internship Program for Young Muslim Leaders (CIPYML).**

The Program Coordinator will be engaged for six months, on a renewable contract. The official duty station is Metro Manila, though travel to Davao City and to other parts of Mindanao will be required.

Description: The Program Coordinator will work in collaboration with the Mindanao State University (MSU) and the Congressional Planning and Budget Division (CPBD) of the House of Representatives of the Republic of the Philippines. Specific programmatic, financial and administrative responsibilities include: coordination with MSU on the search, recruitment and selection of interns; design and conduct of the pre-internship program orientation activity for incoming interns; design of a syllabus that plots daily activities of the interns; organization of the program launch and closing ceremony; assistance in the design and conduct of special lectures; assistance in arranging for the placement of interns in House committees/subcommittees/offices, and overseeing their activities and progress; engagement of resource persons to design and conduct special training for the interns; purchase of books and/or reproduction of reference materials, and organization of book sharing activities; arrangement of agency and LGU visits relevant to the internship program; assistance in the organization of special meetings with HOR members, government officials or community leaders; ensuring interns' submission of policy papers or draft legislation, journals, and other academic and program requirements; management of funds and submission of financial reports to GEM; developing performance criteria for interns, and providing assistance in evaluating the performance of interns; preparation and submission of monthly progress reports to GEM; and administration.

Requirements: The CIPYML program coordinator must be a graduate of a social science course or related field. A graduate of a Masters program in Management or Governance will be advantageous. Previous work experience in the House of Representatives and/or program management, and familiarity with the ARMM is preferred. Oral and written fluency in the English language is mandatory

Interested individuals are requested to submit original copies of their letter of interest, curriculum vitae and salary history to the following address: GEM Program, 2/F 1 Ladislawa Bldg., Ladislawa Ave., Buhangin, Davao City, Attention: Renato D. Galang, Deputy Chief of Party for Contracts or Email c/o mlmedina@mindanao.org.

NORWEGIAN TRAINING CENTER-MANILA

Is in need of

ONE (1) ELECTRO-TECHNICAL INSTRUCTOR

Who Are We?	What We Are Looking For?
The Norwegian Training Center-Manila of the Norwegian Maritime Foundation of the Phils., Inc. (NMFPI) was founded in May 1990 for the purpose of ensuring competent training and to promote quality shipping. We offer varied courses from Ship and Cargo Handling; Management, Technical; Safety Courses; Welding; and Culinary Courses. Our faculty of Norwegian and Filipino mariners is trained to teach with confidence, aided by modern teaching aids and methods.	1. E.C.E. Graduate 2. Preferably with shipboard experience as Electrician. 3. With teaching experience. 4. Articulate in English language. 5. Computer literate. 6. Willing to stay for at least two years. 7. Not more than 45 years of age.

For applications, please contact either of the following:

Capt. Eddie P. Berueda
Training Manager
Ms. Bleslia G. Tani-Salva
Administrative Manager
C/E Richard I. Casilian
Head-Technical Research & Dev. Dept.

Address:
Norwegian Training Center-Manila
NTC-M Building, Gate 2 TESDA Complex,
East Service Road, Taguig, Metro Manila
Tel. No.: 812-07-42
Website: www.ntcm.com.ph
E-mail: ntcm.registrar@ntcm.com.ph

A **Dynamic and fast growing Company** is in need of **service-oriented and young Professionals** to be part of our team.

- **Store Manager(Dau Pampanga)**
- **Account Executive/Sales Coordinator**
- **Office Assistants**
  - ➢ Graduate from an exclusive & reputable school (DLSU / UP / ADMU)
  - ➢ Must have 2 years intensive training w/ related field
  - ➢ Dedicated, Motivated and RESULT oriented
  - ➢ Smart, Fast Learner and Must be computer literate (windows nt/xp/powerpoint)
  - ➢ Must have excellent interpersonal skills and leadership skills
  - ➢ Goal-oriented and able to work under pressure
  - ➢ Willing to travel within Philippines
  - ➢ Fluent in oral & written communications (English)
  - ➢ At least 25-35 years of age with pleasing personality

Promodisers (for Metro Manila / Angeles Pampanga)

- ➢ w/ 2 years experience in Hardware Section
- ➢ Aggressive w/ good communication skills
- ➢ At least College level
- ➢ Must be pleasing personality

*** IF YOU THINK YOU ARE QUALIFIED & WANT TO MAKE IT BIG, Send your resumé now w/ your most recent picture (indicate the position applied for) at 2nd Flr., 280 San Fernando St. Binondo Mla. (5 mins Walking distance from Binondo Church) sa_phils@i-manila.com

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CARE - Philippines, a non-government humanitarian organization fighting poverty, is searching for qualified candidates for:

PROJECT OFFICER

The work primarily involves the implementation of CARE Philippines' Community-based Disaster Reduction Project in Dingalan, Aurora under the Disaster Management (DM) Program. S/he will be part of the Field Office Team for Dingalan. As part of the DM Program Team, s/he will contribute to developing CARE Philippines' disaster reduction program; assist in designing and preparing disaster reduction project proposals; take part in supervising the implementation of disaster reduction projects; participate in project reporting, monitoring, and evaluation; assist in documenting best practices; and provide technical backstopping.

Applicants should have at least a bachelor's degree and 3 years relevant experience in social development, preferably in the area of disaster management. S/he must possess excellent analytical skills, the appropriate values consistent with social development work, and good communication and interpersonal skills. S/he must be competent in written English and be computer literate. Email recruitment@care.org.ph for full details of the job description, qualifications and application process. The salary for this item will range from P14,000 to P17,000. Submit résumé by May 10, 2005 to: The Country Director, CARE Philippines, 3rd Flr., Luisa 2 Bldg., 107 Maginhawa St., Teachers Village East, Quezon City, Tel. No. 9290798

A progressive snack food manufacturing company is in immediate need of:

Management Trainee
- Male, single, age 22 to 28 years old
- College graduate
- Preferably fluent in speaking conversational Mandarin
- Willing to be assigned abroad

Baking Plant Supervisor
- Male or Female, age 25 to 35 years old
- Graduate of Food Tech., Chemistry, Chemical Engineering
- Has a Certificate of Attendance from a Baker's Skills Training Course
- Knowledgeable in bakery ingredients and materials evaluation
- Highly skilled in the hands-on preparation and baking of biscuits, breads, cakes, cookies, pastries, and other specialty bakery items.
- With good skills in material control and warehousing.
- Preferably fluent in speaking conversational Mandarin
- Willing to be assigned abroad

Quality Control / Research and Development Technician
- Male or Female, single, age 22 to 26 years old
- Computer literate, graduate of Food Tech., Chemistry, Chemical Engineering or Industrial Engineering
- At least 1 year experience in Quality Control / Quality Assurance and/or Research and Development work.
- Willing to be assigned abroad.

Mechanical Engineer
- Graduate of B.S. Mechanical Engineering
- Preferably licensed.
- At least 2 years work experience.
- Has supervisory experience.
- Computer literate, knowledge in Autocad is an advantage
- Knowledgeable in machine troubleshooting, preventive maintenance and fabrication.

Electrical Engineer
- Graduate of B.S. Electrical Engineering
- Preferably licensed.
- At least 2 years work experience.
- Can supervise or lead a team.
- Knowledgeable in computer aided design and drafting.

Architectural Designer
- Graduate of B.S. Architecture
- At least 2 years work experience.
- Has supervisory experience.
- Knowledgeable in computer aided design and drafting.

Agriculturist/Agronomist
- Male/Female, at least 28 years old.
- Degree holder of B.S. Agronomy, or B.S. Agriculture major in Agronomy.
- Experienced in Root Crop Farm Supervision/Management, knowledgeable in tuber growing, pest control, post-harvest handling and storage.
- Preferably fluent in speaking conversational Mandarin
- Willing to be assigned abroad.

Interior Designer
- B.S. Interior Design graduate
- At least 2 years work experience in interior designing
- Knowledgeable in AutoCAD 2000 or higher version
- Able to render perspective drawing
- Able to prepare bill of materials/project estimates
- Willing to be assigned abroad.

Warehouse Supervisor
- College graduate
- At least 3 years experience in warehousing operation
- Willing to be assigned in Cavite.

Graphic Artist
- Degree in Fine Arts or Advertising
- Must be proficient in computer 2D graphics applications such as Adobe Photoshop/Illustrator/Freehand/CorelDraw and AutoCAD
- Preferably with experience in a creative job position

Accounting Clerk
- Female, single, age 22 to 30 years old
- Graduate of B.S. Accountancy
- With or without experience.

Telephone Operator / Receptionist
- Female, single, age 22 to 28 years old
- College graduate, with pleasing personality
- Excellent English & Filipino verbal communication & listening skills.

Salaries are commensurate to qualifications:
Interested applicants may send their complete resumés and credentials/references (including 2" x 2" ID photo) to:
HRD Manager, 2225 Tolentino St., Pasay City 1300
or E-mail to hrdmanager2004@yahoo.com (with attached ID photo)
Please indicate the position you are applying for.

MEDIA CONVERGENCE INC.

A leading provider of Broadcast and multimedia Technologies in the Philippines is urgently in need of:

SALES ENGINEERS

Qualifications:
- ECE, COE, IT, Electronics Graduates
- With or without Sales experience
- With Good communication skills
- Fluent in English and Filipino
- Computer Literate
- Highly motivated and determined
- Aggressive
- Can work with minimum supervision
- Willing to travel

SUPPORT ENGINEERS

Qualifications:
- ECE, COE, IT, Electronics Graduates
- With Good communication and time management skills
- Fluent in English and Filipino
- Computer Literate (knows how to do technical designs)
- Highly motivated and determined
- Can work with minimum supervision
- Willing to travel

Submit resumés personally at Room 303 Golden Sun Realty Corporation, #29 Mindanao Avenue, Pag-asa, Quezon City.

YALE ACADEMY
http:// yale-academy.co.kr

IS IN NEED OF

ENGLISH TEACHERS

- W/ teaching experience
- At least college graduate (Preferably English/Education majors)
- Excellent English communication and grammar skills

Interested applicants may call at (02)636-0995
and look for Ms. Ollie Gonzalo
or e-mail us at haranddy@hotmail.com
19th floor STRATA 2000 Emerald Ave.
Ortigas Center

Axis
Global Technologies, Inc.
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Innovations for a Limitless Tomorrow!

Axis Global Technologies, Inc. is a leading IT distributor that provides value-added distribution of high-volume IT products in the areas of basic PC components such as microprocessors, magnetic and optical data storage, system boards, video cards and consumer electronics products. We are currently looking for talented, hardworking, self-motivated and result oriented individuals to join our team.

PRODUCT SPECIALISTS
- Must be a graduate of any 4-year course
- Male or Female, not more than 27 years old
- Must have interest and knowledge on consumer electronic products such as inks, media, notebooks
- Good communication and presentation skills, customer oriented and with strong leadership skills

SALES PROCESSING OFFICERS
- Must be a graduate of any 4-year course
- Male or Female, not more than 25 years old
- Must have experience in data encoding
- Excellent communication and coordinating skills, detail oriented, well organized and systematic

JR. PRODUCT SPECIALIST
- Must be a graduate of Marketing, Communications, Business Management or any related course
- Male or Female, not more than 26 years old
- With previous experience in selling IT and telecommunication products
- Must be willing to do field work

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ASSISTANT
- Must be a graduate of any Business and IT related course.
- Must be female, not more than 25 years old.
- Preferably with 1 year experience in foreign supplier coordination.
- Detail oriented, assertive and with good oral and written communication skills.

ACCOUNTING OFFICER – PAYABLES
- Graduate of Finance/Accountancy/Banking or related course.
- Female, not more than 28 years old.
- With at least 2 years experience in Accounting, particularly in General Ledger and Accounts Payable

LOGISTICS COORDINATOR/PLANNER
- Graduate of Computer Science or Technical courses such as Engineering, CoE and other related courses
- Male (for Coordinator), Male or Female (for Planner), not more than 28 years old
- High analytical, problem analysis, coordination and project mgnt. skills
- Previous experience in the same or related field is an advantage.

TECHNICAL MARKETING ENGINEER
- Graduate of COE, ECE or any IT related course
- Male, not more than 28 years old
- Shall be responsible in conducting client presentations and product demos
- Shall also conduct sales and technical training for products being handled by the sales team.
- Willing to work on field and with excellent written and verbal communication skills

TECHNICAL SUPPORT ENGINEER
- Graduate of BS CoE or ECE
- Male, not more than 28 years old
- Experienced in PC troubleshooting, or with a call center providing support for PC or notebooks

If you feel you meet the qualifications above, please send your resume, transcript of records, & 2X2 ID picture to hrdev@axisglobal.com or submit to our HR Department from Mondays through Saturdays, 9 am to 4 pm.

AXIS GLOBAL TECHNOLOGIES, INC
Human Resource Department
20 North Road cor. 3rd Ave., Cubao Quezon City

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

SALES ENGINEER
- Graduates of Engineering, preferably Electrical
- Proficient in communication skills in English, Pilipino & Chinese
- Effective skills in interpersonal relations
- Confident, outgoing personality, and street-smart in spotting business opportunities
- male or female, 21-35 yrs. old

ACCOUNTING CLERK
- Accounting Graduate
- Female, 21-35 yrs. old
- Proficient in computer operation skills including Windows software
- Preferably Chinese speaking
- Well-organized, time-wise and able to work well under pressure

Apply personally at 2209 Jose Abad Santos Avenue near Batangas St., Tondo, Manila with bio-data sheets, 1"x1" ID photos and transcript of records.

Tel. No.: 251-2881
e-mail: yekacctg@pldtdsl.net

IMMEDIATE HIRING

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POEA Accreditation #73122 Haiti, South America
STRUCTURAL ENGINEER US$1,100/MONTH - 5 yrs. exp. familiar in pre-stressed concrete design in bridges, reinforced concrete & steel structures, investigates design of other entities, able to work under pressure.

S.A. TECH. COMPLEX FOR CARS, DAMMAM, KSA
AUTO ELECTRICIAN - 3 yrs. exp. in relevant field, Age 23-35 yrs. old
FOREMAN MECHANIC - 5 yrs. exp. w/knowledge in fuel injection & Auto Transmission

MOHAMMED AL FARAJ OFFICE, KUWAIT
NEON SIGN TECHNICIAN - 4 yrs. exp. in relevant field. Age 40 yrs. old below.
LADY SEWER - 2 yrs. exp. Age 40 yrs. old below.
DOMESTIC HELPER - at least high school graduate, can speak English.
LADY DRIVER - 3 yrs. exp. w/driving license.

SHIH HSIUNG PLASTIC FACTORY, TAIWAN
FACTORY WORKER - 2 yrs. exp. as plastic injection operator, 21-35 yrs. old.

CARETAKERS, TAIWAN (ready contracts)
Employer: Chang Po-Tsun, Lin Chen Hua, Lin Chen Hua, Chiu-A Lan, Hu, Ke Chi.
Applicants should be at least 21-35 yrs. old.

Interested applicants may report for personal interview with 2 sets of detailed Resumé, 5 pcs. colored pictures, diploma, employment certificates, training/seminar certificates to:

BM SKYWAY GENERAL SERVICES & TRADING
POEA License 484-LB-100202-R
2114 M.H. Del Pilar St., Malate, Manila
Tel 3033023 / 3033026 Fax 3033024

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We are an industry leader in the case packaging solutions distribution and servicing. We seek highly qualified professionals to fill in the position of:

FIELD SERVICE ENGINEERS

The Field Service Engineer will be assigned to diagnose and repair machines in shop or customer site. The FSE shall prepare technical reports and train customers in the operation and maintenance of the machines. Candidates must be:

- ■ Male not more than 28 years old
- ■ Engineering graduate EE or ECE
- ■ Possess at least 2 years hands-on experience in industrial environment (process controls, instrumentation, electro pneumatics, PLC, etc.)
- ■ Working knowledge of microprocessor controls is an advantage
- ■ Can perform board level diagnostics & repair
- ■ Above average communication skills
- ■ Able to work independently without supervision

Interested applicants may send the comprehensive resumés to:

Sourcemate International Corp.
G/F La Fuerza Plaza 2 Bldg.,
2241 Sabio St., Pasong Tamo, Makati City
or send it by email at: sourcemate@pacific.net.ph
Attn: Cherry Lie T. Sta. Cruz

TECHNICAL

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	JOB CODE
FINANCE MANAGER Graduate of Accountancy 3 years experience as financial analyst/ good in forecasting ROI per project	FM
SALES MANAGER At least 3 years experience as marketing/product/sales manager Can present the plans/proposals/reports through Power Point presentation Advertising/IT background preferred (hardware/software/solutions)	SM
MARKETING/PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST (for IT products) At least 3 years experience as marketing/product specialist/ IT systems integration At least with successful large scale projects on IT systems integration	MPDS-IT
MARKETING/PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST (for China Project) MDS focused on advertising 3 years work experience in marketing/product development/ exposed on internal/external bill boards/banner/broad show	MPDS-CP
TRAVEL AGENCY MANAGER Tourism/Mass Communication graduate preferred At least with 2 to 3 years experience in travel agency, in a supervisory/managerial level (e.g. inbound and outbound) Extensive experience in the travel industry	TAM
CREATIVE DIRECTOR *(supervisory capacity)* Minimum of 5 years work experience in creative designing/services Experience in an Advertising Agency	CD
ART DIRECTOR 3 years experience in a supervisory/managerial capacity/ Graphic Arts company Macromedia Flash, 3D Animation, Corel Draw and Adobe Photoshop Skill in editing still images and video clips is an advantage	AD
2 SENIOR SYSTEMS ANALYST (Programmer Supervisor) Knowledgeable in MS2000 (SQL), LINUX (MYSQL), IBM DB2, and experience in System Integration	SSA
2 WEB DESIGNERS/DEVELOPERS At least 2 years experience as web developer Knowledgeable on JavaScript, ASP, ASP.Net	WD-D
12 ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES 2 years work experience in sales	AE
2 SALES COORDINATORS At least 1 to 2 years work experience as sales coordinator and ha an excellent skills in telemarketing	SC
3 SALES ASSISTANTS With at least 1 year work experience as sales assistant Excellent oral and written communication skills IT & Advertising background preferred	SA
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT Single, male/female At least 1 year work experience in Media Willing to travel	EA
IT RESEARCHER At least 2 years experience as IT researcher Able to write and presents the reports on the researched topic	IT-R
PURCHASING OFFICERS 2 years experience as purchasing officer in IT industry	PO

- *For CD, AD, MA-D positions, applicants must be a*
- *Graduate of Fine Arts, Architecture, or equivalent*
- *Highly Creative, resourceful, and proactive*
- *Must have sufficient expertise in desktop publication*
- *Proficent with the use of Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Corel Draw and other software in designing.*
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- *Graduate of Mass Communication or any business related courses (Marketing/Management etc.),*
- *With pleasing personality*
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Degree in Information Technology or any computer studies, or any course relevant to the position applied for.
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Punctuality; willingness to maintain satisfactory relations with employees, superiors and Clients;
Flexibility and receptivity in dealing with new situations, ideas, duties and methods
Capacity to work under pressure and meet deadlines
Masters degree is a plus for managerial position or CPA (for FM)
Able to make marketing plans/feasibility study/market research
Able to present the plans/proposals/reports through Power Point presentation

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Finance Analyst

- **Graduate of BS Accountancy or any Finance-related business course**
- **Pref. with at least 6 months to 1 year experience in product costing, corporate planning, FS / Business process analysis, cost management**
- **Analytical, Proactive, Can work under pressure**
- **Has leadership potential**
- **Must be willing to work in Pasig City**

Applicants may apply personally at
The Human Resources Department
Litton Mills, Inc. – Gate 2
Amang Rodriguez Ave.,
Rosario, Pasig City

Visit our website – CAREERS at
www.littonmills.com

Or fax your résumé at 6421393

AMORE Alliance for Mindanao Off-Grid Renewable Energy

A rural electrification project being implemented by Winrock International, a non-profit organization, is in need of highly qualified and responsible person to occupy the position of:

FINANCE MANAGER

(Manila-based)

Qualifications:

- A degree in Accounting or Financial Management; CPA; preferably with MBA or Law units
- At least five years experience in financial management of USAID contracts
- At least 5 years of senior-level professional experience in all facets accounting work
- Excellent working capabilities with Accounting and other computer software packages; computer literate (Windows/XP applications-MS Office)
- Excellent command of the English language (written, oral, and comprehension)
- Experience with NGOs and/or private firms active in development
- High sense of responsibility, maturity and professionalism
- Exceptional leadership/managerial, interpersonal and organizational skills
- Team player
- Self-starter and able to work independently
- Willing to travel to Mindanao

We are searching for flexible, motivated and mobile individuals. Qualified and interested applicants are requested to send their comprehensive resumé with their recent 2x2 color ID photo to:

The HR/Admin Manager
ALLIANCE FOR MINDANAO OFF-GRID RENEWABLE ENERGY (AMORE)
Unit 1501 Jollibee Plaza, Emerald Avenue
Ortigas Center, Pasig City

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MASTERS IN REHABILITATION SCIENCE
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Questions? Email us at: info@globalstaffing.net
Text us at: 00212-6840099
Send Fax message at: 001-212-6797868

MARKETING ASSISTANT

(for a group of restaurants)

Qualifications:

- College Graduate, preferably male
- Computer Literate, proficient in internet use
- Above average communication and interpersonal skills

Interested applicants are requested to personally submit their recent resumé and credentials (Transcript of Records, NBI clearance) Mondays to Wednesdays, 8:00 to 11:00 AM only to:

MANILA CONSULTING & MANAGEMENT CO., INC.
Unit 2106, 88 Corporate Center
Sedeño corner Valero Street
Salcedo Village, 1227 Makati City

Reedley International School

urgently needs:

Curriculum Development Specialist
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*** The above positions are for Graduates of UP/ADMU/DLSU/UST**

Registered Female Nurse with at least 3 years Hospital Experience

Submit your resumé, Transcript of Records, Diploma & License to:
MONA RIZELLE D. AUSTRIA
JNCV Bldg. Pasig Blvd. Corner Rosemarie Lane, Pasig City

ThreeBond

Three Bond Singapore Pte Ltd
Manila Representative Office

Manufacturer of Adhesives and Sealants, a Japanese multinational company located in Makati is looking for a dynamic individual to fill-up the position of:

ACCOUNT OFFICER

Responsible for providing customer service, marketing and sales.

JOB REQUIREMENTS:
- Graduate of any Bachelor's Degree
- Male; Age: 22 to 29 years old
- Willingness and drive to do fieldwork sales is required; previous experience is an advantage.
- Has at least 1 year related experience
- Must possess excellent oral and written English communication skills
- Must be proficient in the use of computers and various applications
- Must have driver's license or willing to secure.
- Familiar in PEZA areas.

Opening for Account officer is for immediate hiring.

1. E-mail your resumé with photo at: owie@threebond.com.ph
2. To learn more about ThreeBond, visit www.threebond.co.jp

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HOUSE PARENT

High motivation and excellent communication skills are required.
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Please submit your application to
stairway@stairwayfoundation.org
Put the position you apply for as subject.
For more information
www.stairwayfoundation.org

INTERNATIONAL FOOD RETAILER SETTING UP LOCAL OPERATIONS IS LOOKING FOR

SERVICE CREW CASHIERS

Female (at lesat 5'2), 18-25 years old, preferably single, at least 2 years in college (working students/part-time to be considered), fluent in English, experience in food service an advantage but not necessary, clear and fair complexion, pleasing personality with good people skills and passion for service.

Please e-mail your resumé and contact numbers to frontrnr@yahoo.com

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WE ARE CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR A HIGHLY FLEXIBLE & MOTIVATED PEOPLE TO BE PART OF OUR DESIGNING TEAM:

GRAPHIC ARTIST

- Fine Arts / Advertising Graduate. Minimum 5 years relative work experience. Can do manual & computer illustration. With knowledge of PDF (direct to plate) system & scanning. MAC user & highly knowledgeable in Macromedia Freehand, Adobe, Photoshop, etc.

ILLUSTRATOR/CREATIVE DESIGNER

- Fine Arts / Advertising Graduate. Minimum 5 years work experience in manual illustration.

COLORIST / ARTIST

- With 5 years work experience in Manual coloring (mixed media)
- Candidate must meet deadlines and can work with minimum supervision, preferably with experience in publishing and advertising.

Please submit your resumé with recent photo to:
Unit 1707, 17/Fl. Raffles Corporate Center
Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
E-mail to zeny123@hotmail.com
Tel.: 9003593 Fax No.: 9003595

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When we say we are the world's most awarded call center, prestigious award-giving bodies like the International Call Center Management vouch for us. Recently, neoIT, the leading offshore advisory and management firm, and CMP's Managing Offshore, the monthly newsletter for global-sourcing managers, named eTelecare as **Offshore 100's Top 3 Offshore Call Center and Top 10 Leader in Human Capital Development.**

The recognitions we have received are undisputed facts, a testament to our drive for global excellence and our commitment in developing our workforce.

So, the next time you hear claims from other companies, do not be misled by their empty promises and lip service. To know the leading call center, just check out the facts.

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OPERATIONS
- **Inbound Sales Associate** (preferably with sales experience)
- **Outbound Sales Associate** (preferably with sales experience)
- Multilingual Customer Service Associate (French, Japanese, Spanish, Portuguese, German, Thai, Bahasa etc.)
- Operations Manager
- Site Director

CORPORATE GROWTH AND PLANNING
- Contract Quality Assurance Manager

FINANCE
- Internal Audit Manager
- Finance Officers

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
- Business Analyst
- Jr. Helpdesk Associate

CEBU JOB VACANCIES

OPERATIONS
- Team Leaders
- Quality Assurance Manager
- Operations Manager

CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT GROUP
- Organizational Development Trainer
- Organizational Development Officer
- Organizational Development Manager

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
- Telecoms Specialist
- IT Manager

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  Eastwood City Cyber Park
  Bagumbayan, Quezon City
  Cebu Office: 6/F PIPC Engineering Sciences Bldg.
  Asia Town IT Park, Salinas Drive
  Lahug, Cebu City 6000
- E-mail your resume to —
  Manila: recruiting@etelecare.com
  Cebu: ceburecruiting@etelecare.com
  or www.etelecare.com
- Fax your resume to —
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GRAPHIC ARTIST
(graveyard shift)

- Male. Graduate of Fine Arts in Advertising
- Familiar with Mac OS X systems and fluent in illustrator 10 & CS, Photoshop CS, Freehand MX and QuarkXpress.
- Knowledge in prepress, and with strong design portfolio on corporate identity, packaging and labels would be an advantage.
- New grads are welcome to apply if you have the skills mentioned.

Email resumé to
hr@brisoftusa.com

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is in need of
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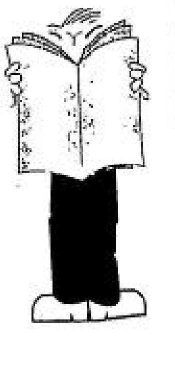

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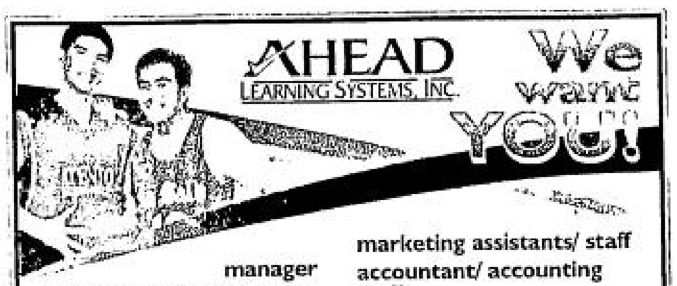
CATERING SALES MANAGER

to qualify:
Preferably MRA/HRM or Business Graduate. Has sales & supervision experience in restaurant or club. Knowledgeable in menu planning and events conceptualization styling. At least 30 years old and above. Attributes thoroughness and creativity.

If you are interested,
Send your resumé, 2x2 photo,
Transcript of Records,
And Certificates of Employment or clearance
from previous employer to:
HR Management Group
24th Floor, IBM Plaza, Eastwood City,
Libis, Quezon City
email: hr@chateaugroup.com
Tel. No. 437-2065

Position Available Until May 31, 2005



AHEAD
LEARNING SYSTEMS, INC.

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- executive assistant/ writer
- Marketing coordinator
- branch coordinator
- research assistant
- marketing assistants/ staff
- accountant/ accounting staff
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Submit resume, transcript of records, and two 2x2 pictures to:

AHEAD TUTORIAL & REVIEW CENTER

MAIN
2/F FBR Building
317 Katipunan Avenue
Loyola Heights, Q.C

SM MEGAMALL
5/F Building B
(in front of
Megatrade Hall I)
Mandaluyong City

GREENHILLS
2/F Providence Building
55 Annapolis Street
Greenhills, San Juan

ROBINSONS GALLERIA
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near Equitable Bank
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E-mail: ahead_hr@yahoo.com Website: www.aheadph.com

MILLENNIUM COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION

A company premier in the country for distribution of IT peripherals is inviting young professionals to join the company in pursuing its goal of maintaining its leadership in the industry is in need of

Metro Manila Opening

PRODUCT MANAGER (PM)
Requirements:
- Male/Female, ages 25 years and above
- Will be the primary point person in charge of marketing, channel development, stocking and selling of the product
- Will handle a sales team who will report to him/her directly
- Experience in IT distribution will be a definite advantage
- Leadership and selling skills, Multi-tasking, Works hard, Creative

SALES ENGINEERS (SE)
Requirements
- Male or female, graduate of Engineering courses particularly Electronics and Communications Engineering & Computer Engineering
- Must have experience and/or knowledge in IT server, Networking, Installation/Storage and updated with latest IT trends and technology
- With experience in handling corporate accounts, attain sales quotas & Manage all aspects in sales cycle for IT products. Aggressive, highly motivated and organized, willing to be trained

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT (AA)
Requirements:
- Female, single, 21 years old & above
- Graduate of Accounting or any business course
- Computer literate (Windows base programs, MS Word, Excel, etc.)
- Assertive, highly motivated and can work with minimum supervision
- Experience in Bookkeeping is an advantage

Provincial Opening

REGIONAL SALES REPRESENTATIVES (RSR)
Requirements:
- Male or Female, ages 22 years old and above
- Graduate of any degree course
- Must be extremely motivated & aggressive in pursuing success in his/her career
- Must have a strong entrepreneurial and excellent communication skills
- Proven record of experience in sales in the IT industry or any allied industries
- Preferably a resident of the following regions

Calabarzon Region- (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas & Quezon)
Bicol Region-(Legazpi)
Western Visayas Region- (Bacolod, Iloilo, Roxas & Victorias)
Eastern Visayas Region-(Tacloban)

Submit your comprehensive resume with latest photo to:
THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
MILLENNIUM COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION
53 Tangali St. San Jose, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. (0632) 383-7777 loc. 362 Or E-mail to: hr@millennium.com.ph
Or you may drop by our website at www.millennium.com.ph
For more details about the open positions and fill up our online registration form

INQUIRER

JOB Market

SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2005
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Get paid to talk...

Welcome to ICT Group.

WE ARE HIRING PART-TIMERS FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

- COLLEGE DEGREE PREFERRED BUT NOT REQUIRED
- EXCELLENT COMMUNICATION SKILLS IN CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH
- SALES APTITUDE A MUST – aggressive/driven
- Strong COMPUTER TYPING SKILLS – ability to multi-task
- Active listening skills
- Strong interpersonal skills to work with the customers and with the team

Applicants must be willing and available to work on
THE FF WORK SCHEDULES:
9pm-1am, 10pm-2am, 6am – 10am, 7am-11am

Submit your RESUME ASAP to
recruitingmanila@ictgroup.com

Or VISIT our RECRUITMENT CENTER
14TH Floor UnionBank Tower,
Meralco Avenue,
Ortigas Center Pasig

For more information
please call us at (02) 8578400

WE ARE CONTINUOUSLY HIRING FOR FULL-TIME CUSTOMER/TECHNICAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES.

We are inviting applicants to join our team and fill in the following positions:

Customer Service Supervisor
- Between 25-30 years old
- At least three (3) years work experience in Group Insurance
- Familiar with insurance and HMO products and services
- College degree holder; Nursing degree is an advantage
- Good in oral and written communication
- Computer literate
- With driving skills and license
- With pleasing personality

Group Insurance Supervisor – Cebu City Branch
- Between 25-30 years old
- At least three (3) years work experience in Group Insurance
- Familiar with insurance and HMO products and services
- College degree holder; Nursing degree is an advantage
- Good in oral and written communication
- Computer literate
- With driving skills and license
- With pleasing personality

Account Officer
- College graduate with a degree in Marketing, Business Administration or any equivalent 4-year course.
- Between 25-35 years old
- Preferably with Group Insurance experience, both in sales and administration.
- Must be customer service-oriented and with excellent inter-personnel skills.
- Excellent in oral and written communication
- Minimum 1-year driving experience.
- Proficient in Windows/MS Office

Training Specialist
- Between 27 – 30 years old
- Graduate of Bachelor's Degree in Marketing or Business Administration, preferably with background in training and development.
- At least 1-3 years work experience in designing of modules and conducting training in Sales and Marketing particularly in insurance business.
- Willing to travel and conduct training in provincial branches
- Excellent communication skills, interpersonal skills, self-starter, resourceful, team player and able to work with minimum supervision

Accounting Assistant
- Between 22-30 years old
- College graduate with a degree in BS Accountancy
- At least 2 years experience in accounting, with advantage in life insurance industry
- Excellent communication skills, interpersonal skills, self-starter, resourceful, team player and able to work with minimum supervision.

We offer an attractive salary and competitive benefits package to the selected candidates. Interested applicants may submit thru fax or e-mail or may hand carry their resume with one (1) recent colored 2X2 picture not later than May 15, 2005 at:

NIPPON LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF THE PHILIPPINES, INC.
21ST F Tower 2 RCBC Plaza 6819 Ayala Avenue
cor. Gil Puyat Avenue Makati City Fax No. 7532161
E-mail: hrd@nipponlife-phil.com.ph

Associate Computer Systems Analyst

Description of Responsibilities

The position designs, develops, implements, and maintains small to medium-scale application systems with moderate technical complexity; and participates in large-scale system development/maintenance projects, under the guidance of senior staff. Specific responsibilities include

- Conducting user requirement analysis for small to medium-scale application systems or well-defined portions of large-scale system development/maintenance projects as assigned (referred to hereunder as assigned application systems); and preparing functional specifications to meet user requirements;
- Preparing functional specifications and/or detailed system/program specifications for assigned application systems;
- Coding programs identified for assigned application systems based on the detailed system/program specifications; and documenting program details;
- Preparing test data required for testing of assigned application systems; and conducting program/system testing, to ensure proper functioning of the systems;
- Conducting necessary data conversion; and implementing assigned application systems in coordination with users after user training;
- Ensuring that assigned application systems adhere to ADB's systems standards including requirements to maintain comprehensive system documentation;
- Undertaking regular maintenance and enhancement to assigned application systems, to ensure their operational efficiency and data integrity;
- Regularly submitting reports on the work status for assigned application systems including problems encountered and resource requirements; and
- Coordinating with the staff of outsourcing contractors who may be involved in the development/ maintenance of assigned application systems.

Reporting Arrangements

The position reports to the Principal Information Systems and Technology Specialist, Office of Information Systems and Technology.

Selection Criteria

- Suitability to undertake the responsibilities mentioned above at the required level;
- A bachelor degree in MIS, Computer Science, Business Administration, Accounting or related areas ;
- At least five years experience in the development of large-scale Java J2EE application systems, one year of which must have been in system design;
- Proficiency in systems analysis and design; and preparation of functional and detailed specifications design using UML under Agile development model ;
- Proficiency in delivery (write or execute) of SQL and PL/SQL;
- Knowledge of Java, JavaScript, HTML, XML, J2EE(servlets, JSP, JDBC), Linux, JDeveloper, and DMBS like Oracle 10g and MySQL,
- Extensive knowledge in application development and implementation hardware/ software platforms used in a multilateral institution;
- Familiarity with system development methodologies (Object Oriented) and related productivity tools including integrated development environments; and
- Good oral and written communication skills in English.

The Asian Development Bank's vision is a region free of poverty. Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from about 50 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its administrative staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. While the position advertised is for ADB Headquarters in Manila, Philippines, ADB staff must be prepared to serve in any location outside its Headquarters at the discretion of Management.

Apply electronically, quoting Ref. No. EXT-AS05-084(3)-OIST and job title on subject line and attaching application form available on www.adb.org/Employment/ appform.asp to e-mail address: CS-jobs@adb.org by 20 May 2005.

Due to the expected large number of applications, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Applications lacking the job reference number and job title or using the wrong e-mail address will not be considered.

www.adb.org

Asian Development Bank ADB
FIGHTING POVERTY IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

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JOB Market ONLINE

INTRODUCTION

American Power Conversion provides protection against many of the primary causes of data loss, hardware damage and downtime. Founded in 1981, APC is a leading provider of global, end-to-end AC and DC-based back-up power products and services, which include surge suppressors, uninterruptible power supplies (UPS), power conditioning equipment, power management software, and DC power systems as well as precision cooling equipment, and professional and consulting services for Nonstop Networking™. APC, known for Legendary Reliability™, sets the standard for quality, innovation and support for power protection solutions from desktop systems to data center operations to entire facilities. Its comprehensive solutions, which are designed for both home and corporate environments, improve the manageability, availability and performance of sensitive electronic, network, communication and industrial equipment of all sizes.

GLOBALPRESENCE

APC's corporate offices are located in West Kingston, Rhode Island. The Company has sales offices throughout the world; manufacturing facilities in the U.S., Ireland, Switzerland, Philippines, China, India, and Brazil; and ships product to over 150 countries. In 2003, 50% of APC's revenues were in the Americas (North and Latin America), 32% was in Europe, the Middle East and Africa and 18% was in Asia. As of December 31, 2003, APC had approximately 6,365 full-time employees worldwide.

KEYAPPLICATIONAREAS

Today, the Company focuses its efforts on four key application areas:
Home/Home Office
Business Networks
Access Provider Networks
Data Centers and Facilities

JOBPOSTINGS

ENGINEERS Manufacturing, Product engineering, Production, Mechanical Engineering, Magnetics and Purchasing.
TECHNICIANS Production, Repair and maintenance and Quality Control
OTHERS Production Supervisors, . Team Leads for Production

JOBQUALIFICATIONS

- 3 years experience in Product Engineering, Manufacturing Engineering, Manufacturing Purchasing, Manufacturing Planning or Project Management
- 5 years minimum experience in Project Management and Manufacturing Engineering or equivalent for senior engineering posts.
- Knowledgeable in Manufacturing Operations, background in Electronics with PCB and Final Assembly and system writing, an advantage
- 2 years supervisor experience for Production Supervisors with strong functional background in Production

Interested applicants may send their resumés at:
APCHRPhl.Recruitment@apcc.com.
You may also visit our plant at Lot 10 Blk 16 Phase IV
PEZA, Rosario, Cavite
or call us at telephone number 046-4371506.

APC
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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

The country's leading newspaper is looking for:

SECRETARY

Qualifications:
- College graduate, preferably B.S Secretarial Course
- 1 year experience in related job.
- Knowledge of basic office and e-mail software.
- Knowledge of basic computer program, Typing skills, Communication skills, Basic Writing skills, Interpersonal skills, Interpersonal skills, Filing skills

PERSONNEL ASSISTANT

Qualifications:
- Graduate of Psychology or Behavioral Science
- At least 2 years experience in recruitment and selection
- Familiar with psychological tests
- Knows how to use office software
- Interpersonal and Communication Skills, Analytical Skills, Report Writing Skills

Responsibilities:
- To provide recruitment, selection and employment services and maintain an HR information system.

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR

Qualifications:
- College graduate preferably Fine Arts major/Computer Science
- At least 2 years experience in this job or jobs leading to it.
- Knowledge of computer operations. Communication skills, Interpersonal skills, knowledge in Pagemaker, Corel Draw, Power Point and any Graphic applications.

Responsibilities:
- Responsible for the preparation of the ads and pages of the daily Classified Ads Section.
- Responsible in proofreading, layouting of ads, scans images and creating EPS (Encapsulated Post Script)

AUDITOR

Qualifications:
- Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- At least 3 years auditing experience
- At least 1 year supervisory / management experience
- Knowledge of Gen. Accounting & Auditing Principles & Procedures
- Knowledge of Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing
- Knowledge of Financial Data Analysis, Taxation & Labor Laws
- Analytical Skills, Team Player
- Can promote & implement appropriate process improvements, Leadership Skills

Responsibilities:
- Performs audit procedure, organizes working papers and communicate reports based on results of audit examinations
- Responsible for assisting in identifying risk, evaluating controls and preparing audit plans/programs

Send your application letter and comprehensive resumé or e-mail to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City
E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

Abbott Laboratories

"To be the Premier Health Care Company in the Philippines"
is our Vision.
The existence of Abbott in the country for more than 60 years is a tangible expression of this commitment, providing innovative products and services that span the continuum of care – from prevention and diagnosis to treatment and cure.

Interested applicants should proceed to:

DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY OF THE PHILIPPINES (DAP)
San Miguel Avenue, Pasig City

on Tuesday, 10 May 2005

Please bring an updated resumé with colored ID picture and transcript of records.

www.abbottrecruitment.com.ph

Professional Medical Representatives

...The Driving Force behind the success of Abbott

*This is a **Specialized Cardio Field Force** position that prepares high potential individuals for successful management careers in Sales, Marketing (Product Management), Training, Business Development, Human Resources and General Management. It is a job that requires emotional maturity, a lot of discipline and focus, professionalism, high tolerance for stress and frustrations, **but can be very rewarding...***

Qualifications:

- Current Cardiology Sales Representative or with similar background preferred;
- University graduates, any four or five year degree courses;
- Very good communication and presentation skills with the ability and aptitude to learn and understand effectively information of medical science nature;
- Licensed drivers are preferred.

From the nation's No. 1 Newspaper: INQUIRER

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JOB Market

MEGA MOTION
HI-TECH AUTO CENTER

GENERAL / BRANCH MANAGER
Preferably BSME or Management grad. Highly motivated & can handle people of all levels, w/ strong leadership ability. At least 5 yrs. extensive exp. in auto services, not over 45 yrs. old.

ACCTG. SPVSR. / ASST.
Graduate of accountancy w/ at-least 2-3 yrs. relevant work experience. Highly computer literate. Can meet deadlines, and can work under pressure. People oriented, aggressive, analytical & assertive. Not over 35 yrs. old.

HRD / ADMIN MANAGER / ASST.
Graduate of BS Psychology or any 4 years course w/ at least 2-3 yrs. relevant work exp. Must be smart, assertive, organized & people oriented, can meet deadlines & work under pressure. Highly computer literate, must have sense of responsibility & maturity. Not over 35 yrs. old.

MARKETING MANAGER / ASST.
M/F with good track record in mktg. of car services & accs. is an edge but not nec. Pleasing personality, aggressive & hardworking. Must have P.R. skills, proficient in oral & written communication, good interpersonal skills & computer literate. Not over 35 yrs. old.

SERVICE SPVSR / ADVISOR / MANAGERIAL TRAINEE
With at least 2-3 years experience in services, accommodating resourceful & can handle customer objection & concern.

Good compensation package for qualified app:
Apply personally w/ recent photo or send to:
98 Banawe St., Nr. Corner Retiro Q.C. 1114
1120-28 Prs. Quirino Ave. Ext., OTIS Paco
M.M., 1007 Phils.
Megamotion group@yahoo.com

OUR COMPANY, A MULTI-MILLION REALTY COMPANY IS IN IMMEDIATE NEED OF:

A. MARKETING MANAGER
- Male/Female
- 40 years old and above
- Must be well-experienced in marketing especially condominium and subdivisions.
- Must be a graduate of Management or Marketing

B. MARKETING ASSISTANT
- Female
- 21-27 years old
- Must be a graduate of Management or Marketing
- At least one (1) year experience
- Computer Literate (Power Point, Print Shop, Web Editor)

Apply personally and bring Resumé, Transcript of Records & 2x2 pictures at:

RAFELI REALTY AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Unit 715 Royal Plaza Twin Tower, 648 Remedios St. Malate Manila
Tel Nos.: 301-77-85*301-7786*301-77-87
Or e-mail at rafelirealty@yahoo.com

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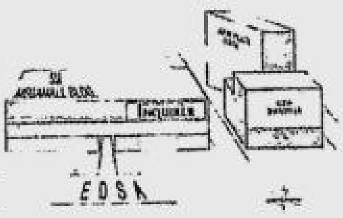
BLDG. B, EDSA
Call JOY, ARNOLD, ARNEL or RANDY at
TEL. NO.: 635-0219 / 637-2008



An International company with offices in the Middle East invites interested graduates of

Electronics & Communication Engineering (ECE)

with or without license but with experience for possible job opportunities abroad.

Interested candidates between 25 to 35 years of age must attend an interview from the 9th until 13th of May 2005 at -

JVE PLACEMENT
License No. POEA-071-LB-03-1103-R
Unit 501, City Tower Condominium, 810 Aurora Blvd cor. N. Domingo Street, Cubao, Q.C. Tel No. 8529274 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Please bring CV's with photo, certificates and valid passport copy if available.

Candidates with no previous work experience need not apply

BINONDO-BASED LAW FIRM
is presently accepting Trainees for:

ASSOCIATE LAWYERS
(Litigation/Corporate/Administrative)
- not more than 5 years as lawyer (new lawyers are welcome)

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OFFICE SUPERVISOR
- preferably graduate of Legal Management, Office Administration, or its equivalent

LEGAL SECRETARIES & CLERKS
- preferably graduate of 4 year course in related field

LIAISON OFFICERS
- preferably College graduate

All applicants must be graduates of reputable schools with above average scholastic records, possess good communication skills, computer literate, open-minded, willing to learn, patient and dedicated. Submit resume w/ picture at-

Unit 201, A & T Building
244 Escolta Street,
Binondo, Manila

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS BUT ONCE.

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JOB Market

MANAGERIAL/TECHNICAL

tyler (Owned and operated by Republic Retailers)

is looking for:

- **I.T. MANAGER**
- **I.T. PROGRAMMER**
- **EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT**

Job Summary

Working under the General Manager, attends to their needs, schedules, meetings, personal matters, communication, and confidential information, as well as other duties assigned.

- **ACCOUNTANT**

Job Summary

Performs professional accounting work, which includes check voucher preparation, preparing petty cash fund, purchasing of supplies, monitoring and filing of accounting documents, preparation of reports and other forms for government agencies, and performs related work as required.

- **STORE SALES & CUSTOMER SERVICE STAFF (STORE FRONTLINER)**

Job Summary

Reports to the Store Operations Manager, is responsible for in-store selling, organizing, communicating, knowing and marketing of products through exceptional customer service, while following the Mission and Vision of Republic Retailers.

Job Requirements

- College degree or customer service experience in the retail, restaurant or hotel industry
- Willing and able to work on weekends and holidays
- Ability to deliver super-premium customer service
- Ability to work as part of a team
- Ability to work in a fast-paced and changing environment
- Strong problem-solving and interpersonal skills
- Effective oral communication skills
- Ability to learn new concepts and information quickly and concisely
- Willingness to learn

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND HOW TO APPLY:

- Go to www.republicretailers.com
  OR
- Get a Recruitment Brochure & Application Form from any of our stores: 2/F, Glorietta 4, Ayala Center, Makati City, or 1st Level Rockwell Power Plant Mall, Rockwell Driver corner Estrella St., Makati City, or 2nd Level Rustan's Shangri-La Plaza EDSA corner Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City.

(Only shortlisted applicants who have filled up an Application Form will be contacted.)

Non-Linear Video Editor

- Male/Female at least 6 months working experience
- 20-25 years of age
- college graduate / undergraduate

Book Binder

- Male at least 6 months working experience
- 25-35 years of age

Bring Resume, NBI Clearance,
2 2x2 ID Picture

For more information
Call Eileen Buencamino (02) 535-5360
or go to:
#132 San Francisco St.,
Plainview Mandaluyong City

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5 PROJECT OFFICERS
2 BOOKKEEPERS
For Private Social Development Org'n

- Willing to serve the poor
- Hardworking
- Honest
- Quick learner

Apply with biodata at #9 Don Rafael Street,
Don Enrique Heights, Holy Spirit,
Quezon City; Tel. # 9314335 (Reza)

WANTED

Pleasant & Presentable Personality,
18 years above
Various Position avail w/ wo exp. can apply

Secretary, Admin, Acct Sales, Tele Mkt and Driver

Unit E, Villa Maria 31 Mayon St.,
Mandaluyong City
10am - 9th 13th May
16th - 20th May

BST Phils., Inc.

An affiliate of **WINS** channel
a Japanese channel aired over at Destiny Ch 52 & Global Cable Ch 39

is looking for employees who are energetic, responsible, diligent, hard-working, obedient, creative, artistic, healthy, young, willing to start on minimum wage and work on overtime with pay.

Positions: *Production Staff*
Office Receptionist/Assistant

Fill-up Application Form at
Unit 303 One Corporate Plaza
845 Arnaiz Ave., Makati City
Tel. No. 893-3650 / 752-7247

MANOS OUTSOURCING

Unit # Rizalina 2 Bldg., 1675 Quezon Avenue, QC
Tel 926-9857 / 411-2630

- **CALL CENTER AGENT** – 18-30 yrs old; excellent in English; w/ sales experience
- **PROMO / MERCHANDISER** – Male/ Female; College level / 21-30 w/ sales exp.
- **FOOD TECHNOLOGIST** – Male/Female, 21-30 yrs old/with sales experience
- **BEAUTY CONSULTANT** – Female, 20-25 yrs. old, at least college level, with sales experience
- **PRODUCT SPECIALIST/ACCOUNT/ EXECUTIVE** – Male/Female, 21-30 yrs. old, Electronic/Computer Engineer, or w/ knowledge on computers, with sales experience
- **MARKETING/ADMIN ASSOCIATE** – Fresh graduate from UP/Ateneo or La Salle

Bring resumé w/ picture NBI/TRO/SSS/TIN

URGENT!
We need a

CIVIL ENGINEER

That will handle over all technical department with direct reports of around 6-8 supervisors with different project assignments; will train and be directly responsible for the supervisors performance and personal development.

QUALIFICATION: Licensed Civil Engineer w/ a min. of 5 years work experience in a reputable construction company; 30-40 years old; can drive; preferably Male.

BACKGROUND OF THE COMPANY - One of the top landscape firms in the country; franchise of global stamped concrete market leader.

Please bring your Resumé at **2/F Race Bldg. 608 Sierra Madre St., Mandaluyong City or call 7171396 • 5328462**
and look for Ms. Shabs Baylon
E-mail: sadb_bestoption@yahoo.com

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Franchise Consultant

exchange

Interview Schedule 9:00am-6:00pm Tues -Wed May 3-4, 2005

Please bring your resume with 2x2 picture to:
2109 JOLLIBEE PLAZA, EMERALD AVENUE, ORTIGAS CENTER, PASIG CITY, PHILIPPINES 1605
TEL NO. 632-0353/ 633-0462 TELEFAX: 632-0126

ALTIGEN COMMUNICATIONS PHILIPPINES

is currently in need of

ADMIN. ASSISTANT

- Female, at least 21 years old
- College graduate
- Advanced proficiency with MS Office applications
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Self-motivated, with pleasing personality

MARKETING/ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

- College graduate
- With strong IT background
- Ability to develop and execute aggressive sales, marketing strategies and good communication skills

Send a copy of your resume to:
jobs@altigen.com.ph or bring to
Suite 5D, 8101 Pearl Plaza, Pearl Drive,
Ortigas Center, Pasig City

A Makati based Business Hotel invites application for a

FRONT OFFICE ASSISTANT

- Female, not more than 25 years old
- College graduate, computer literate
- Proficient in both oral and written English
- With Pleasing personality

Those interested may bring their resumé with 2x2 photo to:

MS. TRIXIA LACSON
1002 Arnaiz Ave. (Pasay Road)
San Lorenzo Village, Makati City

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22/F Wynsum Corporate Plaza, Emerald Ave. Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1600
E-mail: recruitment@clientlogic.com.ph www.clientlogic.com

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FOR MANILA:
Technical Support Representatives
Customer Service Representatives
Accountant
Network Engineer
Systems Administrator
Reports Specialist
IT Site Support Engineer
Systems Developer
Foreign Language Specialist
(Spanish,French, Italian, German,Portuguese)

FOR BAGUIO:
Technical Support Representatives
Customer Service Representatives

Walk-in applicants are welcome from:
9:30 am to 11:30 am
Bring your resume with
° 2x2 picture
° SSS & TIN nos.

E-mail Applications:
° Indicate the position your applying for as the subject

PASIG: Mon to Fri (9:30 am-11:30 am) May 9 - 13 ° 22/F Wynsum Corporate Plaza, Emerald Ave, Ortigas Center, Pasig City

BAGUIO: Mon to Fri (9am-5pm) May 9 - 13 ° Baguio Economic Zone, Loakan Rd., Baguio City

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"To be the Premier Healthcare Company in the Philippines" is our vision. The existence of Abbott in the country for more than 60 years is a tangible expression of this commitment, providing innovative products and services that span the continuum of care -- from prevention and diagnosis to treatment and cure.

PHARMACOVIGILANCE AND CLINICAL RESEARCH OFFICER

- Responsible for pharmacovigilance operations on drug, nutritionals and medical devices;
- Lead the development and implementation of standard operating procedures/policies related to pharmacovigilance;
- Review medical literature for assessment and reportability of adverse events associated with drugs, nutritionals and medical devices;
- Conduct the assessment, investigation, coordination, follow-up and close out of reports of adverse patient experiences associated with marketed and investigational pharmaceuticals, nutritionals and devices;
- Prepare reports for ultimate submission to the local Regulatory Agency and to International Regulatory authorities;
- Acts as the affiliate Clinical Research personnel, including evaluation and analysis of both clinical and post marketing drug and/or device report.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Licensed Health Professional;
- At least 2 years experience in pharmaceutical industry in the areas of pharmacovigilance, medical affairs and clinical trials/quality assurance audits;
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, able to work with people from various disciplines;
- Keen ability to develop SOPs and flow processes;
- Well versed in GCP principles and applications;
- Adept in all aspects of clinical trial and PMS development and management.

Interested candidates are requested to submit their updated resumés detailing work experience to:
Human Resources Department – Recruitment (Code:PCRO) ABBOTT Laboratories, 102 EDSA, Mandaluyong City.
To apply on-line, visit us at: **www.abbottrecruitment.com.ph**

Only short listed candidates shall be scheduled for interview. Previous applicants need not apply. Applications will be treated with strict confidentiality.

World Vision

We are one of the biggest and leading Christian, humanitarian organizations, committed to the holistic transformational development, relief and rehabilitation, etc. of the poor communities throughout the Philippines. World Vision Development Foundation works in partnership with World Vision International consisting of over 100 WV offices around the world.

We are in urgent need of a Christian professional who have the competence, commitment and passion to work among the poorest of the poor.

EDUCATION SPECIALIST FOR COMBATING CHILD LABOR THROUGH EDUCATION

A graduate of B.S. in Education, Social Sciences or any related field, a Master's degree is an advantage; has at least 3 years of experience with a leadership role in implementing education programs such as education policy, educational assessment of disadvantaged students; development of community participation in the improvement of basic education for disadvantaged children; monitoring and evaluation of basic education project; with strong networking experience with the Department of Education and/or other network of educators; knowledgeable in child labor issues and experience in the development of transitional, formal, and vocational education of children who are victims of the worst forms of child labor.

In collaboration with the Project Director, the incumbent will provide leadership in developing technical aspects of the project such as student assessment, teacher training, education materials development, education management, and educational monitoring and information systems.

Qualified candidates may send their comprehensive resume' with picture detailing work history to:

Tere R. Ramos
World Vision Development Foundation, Inc.
883 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City
or via email at phl_hrd@wvi.org
Fax number: 374-7661

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Qualifications:

- At least college graduate
- A successful track record in sales, no less than two years
- Proven dependable network
- Exceptional leadership and organizational skills
- Effective coaching and communication skills

We provide:

- Very competitive salary package
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Jing Basanes (NCR2) - 750-5285
Rowena Arceo (NCR3) - 887-0037
Gina Salalac (Pampanga) - (045) 961-5842
Gleng del Rosario (Lucena) - (042) 710-3329
Annabelle Gibas (Calamba) - (049) 545-2875

Please quote this reference no. when you call/apply: JM 050805

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Multi-Line
Website: www.multi-line.com.ph

We are looking for professionals who have the burning desire to succeed and who want to join our ever-growing enterprise on a long term basis.

CONTROLLER

CPA. With at least 10 years experience as Chief Accountant or Finance Manager. Knowledge of computerized accounting system is a must. Keen attention to details, thorough and results-oriented. With excellent Math skills. Work involves management of accountants assigned to various subsidiaries according to company rules and policies.

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

CPA. Not more than 35 years old. With at least 5 years supervisory experience. Knowledge of computerized accounting system is a must.

COMPUTER PROGRAMMER

Computer Science graduate or any equivalent course. Not more than 30 years old. Work experience in the design of Multi-Level Marketing software and Peachtree Accounting is an advantage.

PROJECT ENGINEERS

Licensed C.E. not more than 38 years old, with at least 5 years experience in supervision of building construction projects. Must have experience in coordinating projects with architects, construction managers and other contractors. CADD knowledge an advantage. Knows how to drive.

SALES ENGINEERS

E.E., E.C.E. or M.E. graduates. With at least 3 years selling experience in construction related projects. To promote and sell electronics, electrical and mechanical systems applied in buildings and industries to consultants, engineers and contractors.

SALES EXECUTIVES

College graduate. Not more than 30 years old. With at least 2 years experience in the construction industry. We need sales executives to promote our roofing and wall products and who know architects, contractors and developers. Intensive training to be provided. With competitive salary, commissions and car plan.

Send resume or apply in person to: Multi-Line, Calderon Bldg., 827 EDSA, Diliman, Q.C

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We are looking for: fresh graduates or those with 2 years work experience to join our young, but industry-recognized company for expansion, we only welcome applicants who have: a thirst for knowledge, a passion for excellence, a commitment to hard work, and a dedication to corporate goals and vision.

We allow for flexible time schedule in an unstructured work environment where creativity is encouraged.

Applicants must: have excellent communication skills both written and oral, be willing to work long hours, be a self starter, and a team player, possess strong organizational and interpersonal skills, be able to work under pressure, and must have a working knowledge of MS Office and the Internet.

ACADEMY:

MEDICAL LECTURERS – must be a Doctor of Medicine, loves to teach in a creative manner and can make learning fun, full-time or part time basis,
MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTION MENTORS – must have at least a year of MT experience, full time basis
FACULTY COORDINATORS – exposure in school administration, scheduling and planning
ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINORS

HOLDING COMPANY:

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Franchise Operations Officers
Franchise Account Executives
HR Officer - exposure in all aspects of human resource management
IT Officers - knowledgeable in ASP, Visual Basic, SQL Server, good in documentation and standardization of IT processes and systems
Accounting Officers - preferably CPA
Finance Officer
IT/Technical Support Staff
Software Development Officers

MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTION PRODUCTION:

MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONISTS
QA OFFICERS/TEAM LEADERS
OPERATIONS HEAD

MTC ACADEMY BRANCHES & FRANCHISES

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e-mail: hrd@mtcacademy.com / www.mtcacademy.com

G/F Urban Bldg. 405 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Bel-Air., Makati City

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!!!! URGENT !!!!

AL SIDDIQI INT'L GROUP
DOHA, QATAR

SALES LADY – F

- 21-28 years of age
- 5'3" in height, with pleasing personality
- At least college level; Good in English
- With/Without experience

DESIGNER (EMBROIDERY)-M

- Very good in pattern making
- Professional in hand-made skills
- Good English

QUALITY CONTROLLER-M/F

- At least 3 years experience local/abroad
- Good English

BAR ENCODER – M

- At least 5 years experience
- Good English

Qualified applicants are requested to submit personally their resumé, passport copy, school/employment certificate to:

KU-8 INT'L PLACEMENT AGENCY
POEA LICENSE #118-LB-052703-R
Rm. 1574-B Gedisco Bldg., 1564 A. Mabini St.
cor. Pedro Gil, Malate, Manila

For Manpower Pooling Only/Beware of Illegal Recruiter

A Food Ingredient Company needs

1 - FOOD TECHNOLOGIST
1 - R&D CHEMIST

Qualifications:

- Female - 21-26 years old

FOOD TECHNOLOGIST:

- B.S. Food Technology graduate

R&D CHEMIST:

- B.S. Chemistry graduate

Preferably one or two years working experience in Food Institution or Food Manufacturing.

Send to: P.O. Box 19399, SAN JUAN
CENTRAL POST OFFICE,
SAN JUAN, MM, 1500

- Comprehensive resumé
- Records of grades
- 2x2 or 1½ x 1½ ID picture

URGENTLY NEED!
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62 West Ave., Quezon City

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- W/ experience in applying these methods in a marketing/finance or general business setting

Marketing Assistant

- Good in oral and written communications
- 21-25 yrs. old
- Female, with pleasing personality

Business Development Officer

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- With experience in Marketing
- Excellent in oral & written communications
- Computer literate and results oriented

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BF Resort Village, Las Piñas City
Email cust_serv@vitalink.com.ph • Tel. No. 874-6327 to 28

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- Proficient in oral and written communication
- Pleasing personality
- Willing to work on weekends and holidays

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- Willing to work on weekends and holidays

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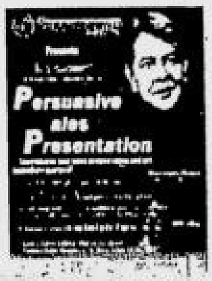

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How do you solve a problem at work?

WORKING WOUNDED

Bob Rosner

DEAR WW: I read your recent column on identifying problems at work. I have no trouble identifying problems, but sorting out how I can solve them is another story.

Trouble in River City

I think Jacob Wise can help you gain perspective on your dilemma. He's not a business professor, best selling author or corporate executive. He's a shoplifter who was recently arrested in Tulsa, OK. He'd carefully removed the electronic tags from the clothing he was going to steal. The problem was that he'd put all the tags he'd removed in his pocket and set off the shoplifting sensors when he tried to leave the store.

Like Mr. Wise, too many of us set off alarms at work with our bosses and coworkers for failing to have a clear strategy for tackling our workplace problems. I've listed a series of strategies to do this below. For more, check out "The Artist's Way at Work" by Bryan, Cameron and Allen (Morrow, 1998)

Can you take an objective look at the problem? What impact does the problem have on your organization? What data can you get on it? Can you document the costs that the problem causes to your organization? Finally, are you better off not tackling it?

Can you look at the problem subjectively? The workplace encourages right brain rational thinking. That's good. But any problem requires an appreciation of irrational elements. How does it make you feel? What parts of the problem aren't logical? Do you have the energy to tackle this problem?

How have others solved the problem? I always begin my problem solving process by checking out other people's solutions. Why reinvent the wheel? What do you wish would happen? Yes, I did use the "w" word—wish. I think that many of us are so trapped in what is possible that we seldom let our imaginations run wild as part of our problem solving process. My favorite way to do this is to ask, "If I had a magic wand, what would I like to see happen?" If you don't imagine a best case scenario, how will you ever end up there?

How can you get other people invested in addressing the problem? I'm a big believer in the importance of comforting the afflicted and afflicting the comfortable in problem solving and learning what is important to your key stakeholders, and striving to define the problem in this context. This often requires defining the problem very specifically in order for others to see how they are negatively impacted by the problem. They then become motivated to solve problems, too.

Have you done your homework? Whenever I would present a big problem to my boss I would always try to anticipate her top questions and create a Q&A sheet addressing them. Do this a time or two and you won't believe the trust your boss will have for your ideas.

Follow these suggestions and you'll solve your problems at work at an alarming rate.

ILLUSTRATION BY ANTHONY MISTADES

Here are the results from a recent workingwounded.com/ABCnews.com online ballot: How would you describe your problem solving skills?

—Bottom of the barrel, 5.4 percent

—Top of the heap, 45.6 percent

—Middle of the pack, 48.8 percent

(Mr. Rosner, an internationally syndicated columnist, author and speaker, is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. E-mail him at bob@workingwounded.com.)

How working moms can celebrate Mothers' Day

From page 8★★

pleasure of knowing that they have made you happy on your special day. That they have achieved their objectives, so to speak, is a rewarding thought by itself.

Share your joy as a mother

Many working moms paint an image of being perpetually harassed, constantly unable to cope, burdened by the weight of making a living while raising a family. True. No arguments there.

But there are many more magic moments associated with mothering that no amount of working woes will ever eclipse. Mothers' Day is also for showing your family that playing the role of mother has its own rewards. It's not all pots and pans on one hand, and paperwork and deadlines on the other. In between is an endless stretch of memorable, feel-good experiences that only working moms are privileged to go through.

Children, especially very young girls, will look up to their working moms when they become working moms themselves. The images they will remember will include mental snapshots of their mothers as joyful servants or cranky nitpickers. The kind of working moms they eventually become will be close to the kind that their mothers are. In some cases, the image can be so detestable that they vow to be everything that their mothers are not. That is a cruel thought worthy to be dismissed.

Do something just for you

It is Mothers' Day, and being a mother you're entitled to celebrate it the way you want! Don't feel guilty if you feel like sipping into a tall frapuccino or ordering a delivery meal because you slept way into dinnertime. If you're cash-strapped, it's all right to take a stroll by yourself or stare blankly at the television. Do away with feeling guilty that you left your small kids with your spouse. They have enough antivirus shots to survive even the worst babysitter. Besides, the babysitter is their father and not just some man who walked in from nowhere. Learn to trust. It's the only way to give yourself permission to be free and wanton for a change, if only on your special day.

It's a privilege, indeed!

However you want to celebrate Mothers' Day, make sure you live it moment by moment, from one breath to the next. Savor the special something in the air. Say to yourself: "I am uniquely placed as a working mom, and I am grateful for the privilege." Happy Mothers' Day to all you wonderful working moms, myself included!

(Loree Cruz-Mante is a human resources and organization development practitioner, resident writer of the Institute for Studies in Asian Church and Culture and consultant with a leading outplacement, career transition and management firm, Drake Beam Morin. E-mail your comments to lcmante@yahoo.com.)

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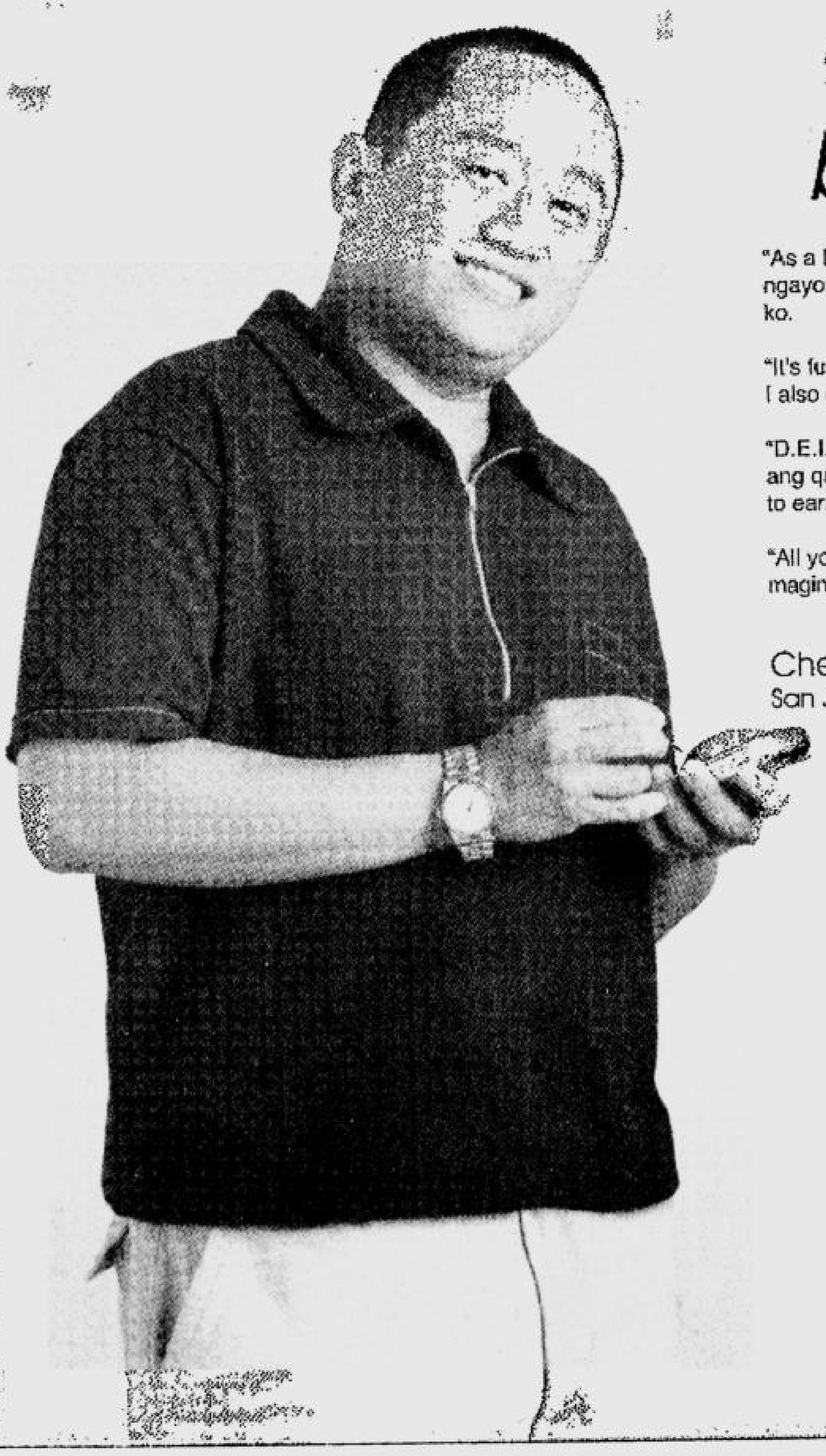

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"It's fun because I can buy whatever I want. Hawak ko ang schedule ko and I also get to train and manage new associates.

"D.E.I. has prices that are very affordable for my customers, pero mataas lagi ang quality ng mga damit at magaganda ang mga style. That's why it's easy to earn with D.E.I.

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Change from mediocrity to top performance

By Megan Tough

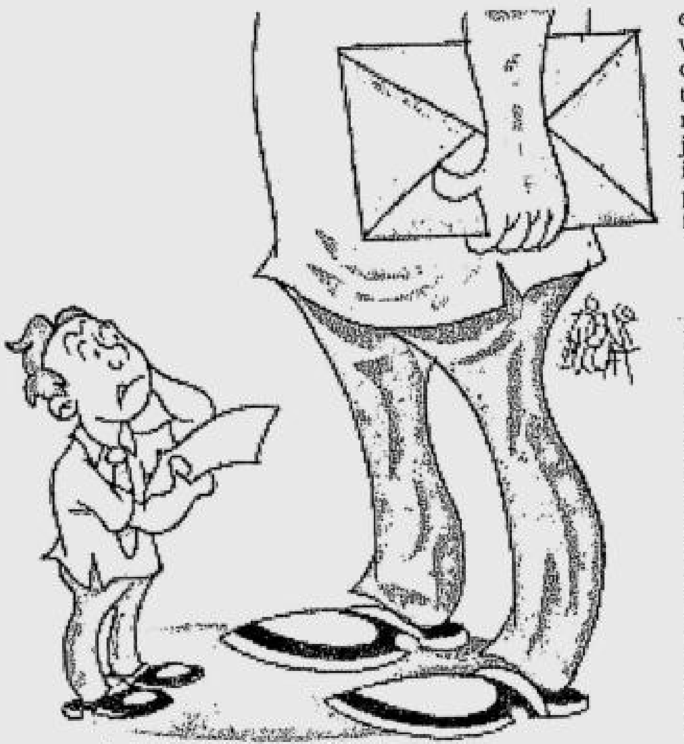

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

WHETHER you own a business or work within someone else's, we can all point to those people who are just getting by. They are the ones who don't seem to be overly motivated to excel or achieve. They may not be doing a bad or poor job, but you know (and they do as well) that they could be doing better, but they are choosing not to.

No one starts out wanting to be mediocre. We each have an innate desire to please, to excel at something. So why then do so many people seem to work beneath their potential? More importantly, how can employers turn under-performing employees into high performing ones?

What's their motivation?

First and foremost, find out what's important to them—what motivates them. The simplest way to do this is to ask. Until you get in touch with what people perceive as valuable, you'll never be able to motivate them effectively. Don't be fooled—it's not always more money either. Often it's the small, inexpensive things that can make a large difference. Many people these days value flexibility—such as being able to mix up their working hours during the week. For others, it could be as simple as free movie tickets for doing a job well. You'll never know though if you don't ask.

Don't bore your people to death

Think about the jobs people do. Can you identify one job that you personally would hate to do—perhaps it is repetitive and monotonous, maybe it involves no thinking or skill. Why would anyone want to excel at a "dead end" job like this? Making roles more interesting and meaningful can have an enormous impact on motivation and satisfaction. Job rotation, learning new skills, and creating clear career paths are some ways of showing a commitment to people and their development.

Lead, don't rule

It's no surprise that employees don't really enjoy being told exactly what to do and by when. Under these circumstances they have no say and are given no opportunity to contribute outside of their work tasks. Being a good leader doesn't mean being a "know-it-all." Move away from controlling people's actions and give them the latitude to do things their way. Your way is not the only way. Harness the power of your people by soliciting input and allowing them all to contribute ideas about how to achieve things. Nothing kills motivation and consequently high performance, faster than a leader with a "my way or the highway" mentality.

Listen

Your employees are constantly telling you, both verbally and nonverbally, what they need or want regarding ways to improve their performance. Are you listening? If they have already mentally "checked out," then you missed all the signs. Be proactive (and sincere) about asking your employees how they are going. Great questions are: "What's the one thing that really makes your job difficult?" or "If I could do one thing to help make your job easier (or more enjoyable), what would it be?" If you can start to address some of the things that will really make a difference to their job, you will be seen as being truly interested in your people and how they are feeling.

Stop fixing all the problems

Stop providing solutions. Business owners and managers often get to their positions after being technical specialists, and so will have an opinion or view on how to "fix" situations or problems. It's usually faster to tell someone what to do, or do it yourself, than give them an opportunity to figure it out. By always providing the answers, you take away the learning opportunity for your employees to come up with alternative and (god forbid) better ways of doing things. Encourage them to find their own solution by asking "prodding" questions such as "What do you think would work here?" or "What are you going to try next?"

Improving the potential and performance of the people that work for you doesn't have to be complicated. Think about what makes you want to perform and excel at what you are doing—it's probably going to be similar things for other people. The first step is to create an environment where people feel valued and listened to, and feel they have an opportunity to contribute.

(Megan Tough, leadership and business coach, works with executives, managers and business owners to develop their skills as leaders and effectiveness as business people. To learn more, visit www.megantough.com.)

Retreat, workshop offered on harnessing hidden intelligence

FROM May 15-17, two exciting events are taking place in Manila. Global thought leader and renowned change consultant to multinational companies, Dr. Otto Scharmer of the MIT Sloan School of Management, will be in town to conduct a leadership retreat and workshop entitled, "The Power of Presence: Harnessing the Hidden Intelligence in the Individual and Organizations."

The retreat/workshop will be based on the best selling book, "Presence: Human Purpose and the Field of the Future," which is a collaboration of Dr. Scharmer, with three of his colleagues, Peter Senge (author, "Fifth Discipline"), Joseph Jaworski (author, "Synchronicity"), and Betty Sue Flowers. The book is a synthesis of years of action research in consulting with multinational companies and global institutions that resulted in a process called "Presencing." Dr. Scharmer will personally lead participants through the process that begins with the initial skill of suspending judgment, leading to presencing, then crystallizing, prototyping, institutionalizing, that will allow the future to emerge thru us.

Nicanor Perlas, Filipino recipient of the Right Livelihood Award also known as the Alternative Nobel Prize and whose theory of Societal Three-folding has been adopted by the United Nations as one of its developmental models, will be cofacilitating with Dr. Scharmer. Both are members of the Global Leadership Initiative, a nonprofit organization of leaders of change committed to create a better future through integral sustainable growth strategies. Given the speed of technological advancement and its impact on global realities, it becomes imperative that to continue being successful, corporations and organizations must also be socially responsible. This, and the many challenges to leadership coming from the emerging future, will be some of the topics to be covered during the retreat/workshop.

Members of the Organizing Committee of Karangalan are inviting Filipino leaders who have shown genuine concern for the future of the country and have taken on an active role in initiating peaceful societal transformation to attend. Members of companies, organizations and communities are also invited to join either the two-day retreat or one-day workshop. For more information, contact the Karangalan secretariat at (632) 687-1309, (632) 687-1312.

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Editor Raul O. Marcelo
Contributing Editor Regina Galang Reyes

When work becomes 'personal'

ILLUSTRATION BY ANTHONY MISTADES

By Ernie O. Cecilia, FPM

ASK YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR

I HEAR our big bosses invariably say, "It's purely business—not personal" or in the vernacular "*Trabaho lang yan, walang personalan.*" This usually happens during performance appraisals, disciplinary actions, promotions or similar instances when they have to make decisions about people.

A few months ago, we were surprised that a newer person in our company was promoted to production manager. This promotion came at the expense of an old-timer whom we expected would get the job. What surprises us employees is that the newcomer seems to have more skills in dealing with his bosses and our big clients than in producing our products. He is also great in making management presentations. The old-timer is practically the pioneer and most experienced among the production supervisors but does not seem to know how to butter up his bosses.

We suspect that our big bosses are not true to their word that it is purely business when they make decisions about people. Is this really the way things should be in the workplace today? Are we now left to the whims and caprices of our bosses? How can we be assured of a great career in an environment like this?

Solid Performer

In any endeavor, in any language, nothing beats solid competent performance—if you want to have a job. Knowing the results expected of you and delivering these results promptly and in the most cost-effective way will ensure that you will always have a job.

Let me quickly add, however, that if you want to have a bigger job, bigger pay and greater career, you must ensure that your bosses know you and notice the good you do. They must likewise have that confidence to entrust you with a bigger job that pays bigger bucks. Whenever they make decisions about you and your career, they will be personal about it—it's not just business!

Changing workplace rules

There are a number of significant changes that affect your career, and you must be constantly aware of these new rules. In the past, you'd be all right if you just don't do anything silly. The rule then was simple: don't make waves. Today, the powers-that-be will never notice you unless you make significant waves. Challenge old ways that don't work, innovate, provide solutions and create value in every work situation you are in, in whatever level of the organization you are. Don't just sit there!

You were always told that you must separate your work life from your personal life. But today, what you do after office hours is a major concern of your boss. It seems that your work life never stops. Years ago, you have to be in your office in order to communicate. Today, all you need to do is to be awake to communicate. There are a hundred and one other rules that sound strange but they affect your career just the same.

In the old workplace, you don't question the boss—he is usually the most knowledgeable in the team. Today's new rules suggest that you make sure that the boss knows as much as you do—at least in public. Never make him look stupid, even if he is. It's your job to make your boss look great. If he gets promoted because you made him larger than life, chances are that he will recommend you to take his place.

Lessons in life

In life and in career, it always pays to have more people on your side. Like they say, you have to be nice to the people you meet on your way up. They're the same people you'll meet on your way down. It never ceases to amaze me how the old Golden Rule continues to be true today in life and in career. We make ripples whenever we interact with others, and what goes around usually comes around.

In life and in business, we can never say that it's purely business. We can't help being personal. Ask Simon Cowell of American Idol—and Randy Jackson and Paula Abdul, too. Of course, Simon doesn't mince his words and seems the only one among the judges who take things personal. In reality, when these three judges contestants one after the other, it wasn't just business—it was personal. And don't forget the millions of viewers all over the world who sent their votes through text messaging. Their decisions were all based on their personal perceptions of how the contestants individually performed and how they were wowed and charmed by the protagonists.

By and large, people are highly visual. They make decisions on the basis of impressions they see or hear about you. If you want to succeed in life and in career, do not lose by default by just letting others form their impressions about you without a little help from you. Also, "no news" is bad news!

Tips

So, how do you turn the table around and put this harsh reality to your advantage? Here are a few useful tips:

1. Remember that all business is show business. Someone is always watching you, and you better make sure to make a good impression all the time—especially if your job, career, paycheck, promotion or reputation is at stake.

2. Remember that people will make judgments on the basis of what they see or hear about you. Make sure that you always do well and always get noticed doing well. Don't believe that performance speaks for itself.

3. Offer to help others, especially your boss, whenever you see an opportunity. Always have a helping attitude, teamwork, and a view of the big picture so that you will know when and where you will best be useful.

4. Observe these three natural laws: reciprocity (people tend to pay back for anything they get—good or bad), sowing and reaping (what you sow, you reap), and Newton's third law (for every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction).

5. Make people feel important—whether customer, boss, peer or subordinate, etc. Have a ready helping hand, courteous greeting, or a compliment. As Abraham Lincoln said, "Everybody likes a compliment."

Today's markets and organizations are increasingly getting more fluid. People come and go, and companies do, too. We see around us mergers and acquisitions, continuous rightsizing, shrinkages and expansions. Truly, nothing stays the same forever. Even if you stay in one place, the people around you don't. New technologies and new skills are developed, and you simply have to keep up.

Yet some things never change. Relationships will always count, and they can make or unmake careers. Of course, because of this, it's always personal—it's not just business!

(Mr. Cecilia is the president and CEO of EC Business Solutions and Career Center, a human resource consulting firm. He was the president of Personnel Management Association of the Philippines or PMAP in 1999. His career books are available at popular bookstores. Send feedback to ernie_cecilia@yahoo.com.)

How working moms can celebrate Mothers' Day

By Loree Cruz-Mante
Contributor

A FRIEND of mine once told me this story about how she celebrated Mothers' Day several years ago. She said her husband woke her up very early on that day and excitedly said: "Wake up, Mommy! It's Mothers' Day today. Get up so you can prepare a special breakfast to celebrate!" When my friend later told me that she had left her husband, I understood why.

Not very many mothers have to go through the same pain as my friend did, but neither do many mothers feel special on their supposedly special day. Like all other kinds of moms, working moms are vulnerable to this not-so-special feeling. Perhaps because working moms work doubly hard to keep their souls intact while balancing work and family, they often have unexpressed expectations about being recognized for their efforts.

With all the commercial hype about Mothers' day cards, gifts and celebration gimmicks, do working moms really feel special on their once-a-year day? Here are some suggestions for working moms on how they can truly own their day and get all the refueling they need to face another year of working and mothering joyfully.

Go with the wind

Many working moms often feel that they have exclusive rights to the creative genius. After all, they plan their children's parties, shop for Christmas gifts, and have a bottomless basket of tricks for making every family member happy. They don't think anything of using just a wee bit of company time to design a greeting card for a spouse or child, or of leaving the office a little early to drop by the mall in search of a birthday present. Their storehouse of innovative expressions of love is unmatched by no other.

That is why many a working mom is often frustrated about the less-than-perfect, lackluster efforts of her family to make her day special. Measured against her standards, not too many spouses and children will be good enough.

To remedy this situation, working moms should allow themselves the wonderful chance to relax—just this once. Ride with the flow. Go with the wind. Bask in the thought that performance standards back in the office do not apply here. The effort to please is enough, no matter how clumsy or ill-planned. Spouses and children want to show you their love in whatever way they know best. That alone is cause to celebrate!

Show them you're pleased

Aside from being easy to please, let your family know how happy you are with their attempts to please you. Planning how to treat you like a queen on Mothers' Day is often a great learning and bonding activity for your spouse, children, parents, and other members of your household. Without you giving the orders, children are especially enabled to dig into their own reserves and come up with creative ways of showing how deeply they appreciate you. They are able to practice the art of making others happy early on in their lives.

A tighter hug than usual and a special thank you at the end of the day will give your family a tremendous sense of accomplishment. They will then have the

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

HOW/P. 6★★

Glorifying God

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

THREE monks in their simple, dark blue habit impressed the faithful who welcome them into their new hermitage in our diocese. Later on, one of them donned a habit which amused me; it was one made of recycled flour sacks with the various printed designs and brands of the product still on it. I was then told that it was the working clothes of the monks as they do manual work, mostly under the sun, for hours which, they say, is part of their rendering glory and honor to God together with the time of prayer and meditation.

As I imagined the monks in their working clothes to be like "walking ads," my thoughts wandered to the piers and warehouses where tons of flour, cereals, grains and other materials in sacks are loaded and unloaded by hundreds of laborers, who literally are bent under the weight of these valuable products so essential for the upkeep of society. These stevedores toil for hours during the day just so they and their families can eat and live. Many of them earn so little that they may not even have enough to buy working clothes. Thus, they work barechested as if to lay their bodies as altars on which the sacrifice—the heavy load of work—is offered as a pleasing act of honor and worship of the Creator.

Every laborer can imitate the monks by putting on another kind of "working clothes"—the habit (a constant disposition or practice) of being aware of God's presence in the workplace, of offering one's work as acts of love for God and one's neighbors and of glorifying God through total dedication and commitment to one's work, duties and obligations. (*E-mail the author at* mfvg@skyinet.net.)

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

Work and God's glory

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

MOST people tend to think that only priests, nuns and their ilk are supposed to glorify God by their work. Just because the "tools of their trade" are bibles, prayer books, rosaries and Church teachings, we mistakenly believe that they alone must be morally upright in their jobs—not us laypeople.

If we merely judged the surface of things, we would not see the connection between work and God's glory. How can Aling Mameng give glory to God as *maglulugaw sa palengke*? Can Ka Berto and his scavenging family even think of God at all while picking the neighborhood's trashcans? Can a traffic cop also glorify God as he goes about his work apprehending color code violators?

A key factor here is believing—believing that your work is God-given. In desiring to thank God for His gift of work to you, you yourself will open up the paths that will enable you to live what you believe in. For one, you will seek inspiration in the Scriptures, which often mention work as a means of glorifying God. Jesus Himself in today's gospel shows He worked and glorified the Father by this work.

And just to satisfy some of you who might be waiting for answers to the above: Yes, Aling Mameng can start using glutinous instead of ordinary rice for her *lugaw*. Ka Berto and his brood may be informed that in recycling paper they are saving some trees. The cop can be a model of honesty and hard work by not taking bribes from traffic violators. Do you now see the connection? (*E-mail the author at* teresa_de_manila@yahoo.com.)

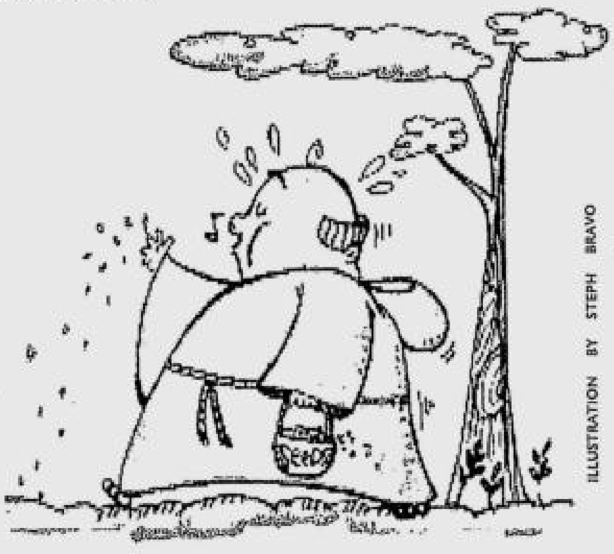

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

Gospel: John 17:1-11a

I glorified you on earth by accomplishing the work that you gave me to do.

What's inside

Working Wounded: How do you solve a problem at work? p. 6★★

Change from mediocrity to top performance p. 7★★

May 8, 2005

sunday INQUIRER magazine

GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE

Sandara Park's Korean Invasion

Or, why a girl who admits that she can't really sing, dance or act has taken the Philippines by storm. As it turns out, this media phenomenon may be more honest and unique than even her screaming fans expected—and, she says, she's ready to work hard to deserve her success

by Eric S. Caruncho
photographs by Raffy Lerma
illustration by Steph Bravo

"WHERE'S Krung?" the production assistant asks, bursting into the cramped dressing room at the ABS-CBN broadcast studio with a handful of script pages.

"Krung" is short for "Krung-krung," the affectionate nickname given to Korean TV idol Sandara Park when she was still a contestant on "Star Circle Quest," one of our homegrown rip-offs of "American Idol." As far as I can gather, "Krung-krung" was supposed to mean "ditzy," but in an endearing—as opposed to annoying—way.

Ditzy she's not.

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The Grandson Also Rises—and He's Defending Mother Nature, As Well, *p.4* • It Might As Well Be the Day the Music Died, *p.5*

Sandara

...from page 1

Am I in or out?: "I don't want to be fad"

Right now Sandara is the calm eye in the center of a whirlwind of script girls, makeup artists, wardrobe assistants, PAs and assorted handlers from Star Magic, ABS-CBN's talent management company to which she is signed.

This is Day 1 of the ultramegabigdeal publicity blitz for "Can This Be Love?," Star Cinema's starmaking vehicle for Sandara which pairs her with fellow Star Circle questor Hero Angeles. Sandara came back from Korea, where she's been for the last four months, just to promote the film. She'll only be here for a few days, so her schedule is packed with a non-stop road show of interviews, TV appearances, press visits, mall concerts and tapings. Jingle *lang ang pahinga.*

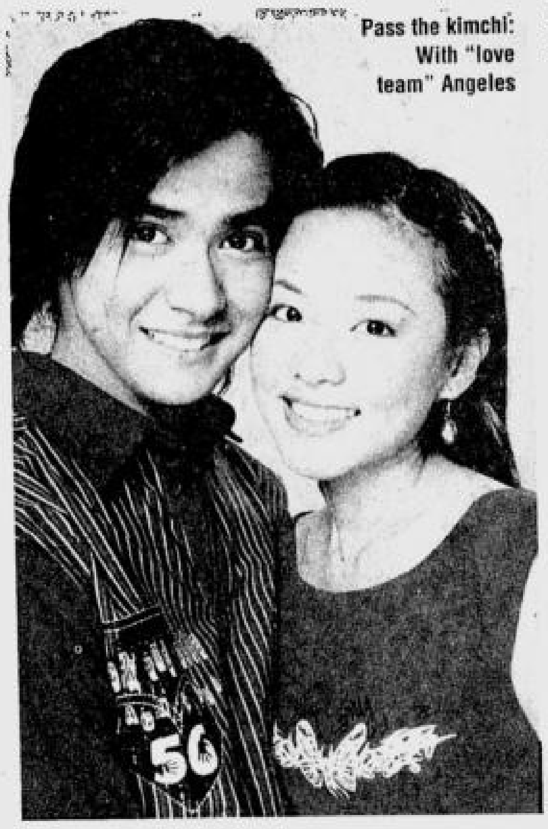
Once in a while, fans, well-wishers and just plain curiosity seekers peep in, but the handlers shoo them off. "*Maya-maya na lang po.*" (A little later, please.)

Sandara's supposed to go on the air in 15 minutes on the noontime variety show "Wowowee" as Snow White, hence the breathless rush. The costume alone is a logistical nightmare: a baby-blue satin princess gown, three electric-blue petticoats of itchy "*kukur,*" and a giant hoop skirt of the same satin material. It takes three wardrobe persons to put it on her, and when they do she looks like a life-size porcelain doll.

Bewildering spectacle

In person, Sandara's a mere slip of a girl. She's 20 now, but could still pass for 17 with her fair skin and unlined face. A size zero, I could span her waist with both hands, and wrap thumb and forefinger around her wrist.

"She so thin," I say to Mrs. Park, Sandara's mother, who has been here the whole time, mostly looking bewildered by the whole spectacle.



Pass the kimchi: With "love team" Angeles

Mrs. Park doesn't have much English, hence my lapsing into "me love you long time" pidgin:

Me: "Why? Doesn't eat much?"

Mrs. Park: "Little only."

Me: "Maybe she doesn't like Korean food? Too spicy?"

Mrs. Park: "She like, but little only."

Me: "Okay..."

Sandara hasn't even touched her "spaghetti chicken" yet. She has to memorize trivia about Arlo, Alwyn, Serena, Shaina and Nicky—who *are* these people?—and the lyrics of Sarah Geronimo's theme song for "Can This Be Love?," because they're not sure there'll be a teleprompter near the stage.

On top of all this, Raffy, our photographer, starts snapping pictures. He lapses into one-word sentences too, like someone directing a child to pose.

"Look! Sandara! Here!"

You either "get" Sandara Park or you don't. I was one of those who didn't. How could this Korean girl, with no apparent talent for singing, dancing or acting, and at best a rudimentary grasp of Tagalog, become as huge a star as she has? How could "In or Out"—one of the most annoying songs ever recorded—be a hit?

At first I thought she was part of *hallyu*, the "Korean wave" that's been sweeping not only the Philippines, but, it seems, the rest of the world as well, led by a steady stream of Korean soap operas dubbed in every conceivable language, and to a lesser extent by Korean romantic comedies such as "My Sassy Girl" and "White Valentine." As of last count there were five or six "Koreanovelas" running simultaneously on local network TV, daytime and primetime. We have Korean soapsuds running out of our ears. The sidewalk vendors in Quiapo who used to sell F4 posters now sell wallet-sized fan photos of Korean soap stars.

And Sandara Park.

Come to think of it, Sandara predated the current "Koreanovela" craze. The Sandara Park phenomenon took off from the "Star Circle Quest" talent contest two years ago. Sandara rated consistently low among the judges, and was in danger of being booted out of the final circle several times. But the audience response to her was unprecedented. As the popular legend now goes, up to 500,000 text messages came in from the audience, overruling the judges. The rest is history, as the young Korean was snapped up by the star-making machinery, always quick to spot a bankable trend. A flurry of TV appearances followed, including guest spots on the popular fantasy-soap "Krystala" and the talent show spinoff "SCQ Reload," as well as the host's spot on "Sandara's Romance," an anthology of Korean soaps. Lucrative endorsement deals followed, for everything from skin lotions to sanitary napkins to a brand of Korean-made ballpens and a popular line of digital cameras.

Lost little girl

Her first big screen appearance, on "Bcuz of U," did well in the box office, and "Can This Be Love?" is calculated to propel her even higher into the stratosphere by catering to the audience's inbuilt susceptibility to "love teams"—the so-called "*kilig*" factor.

In the end, Sandara's success has to do with the triumph of demographics. The audience likes what it likes, regardless of what the judges might say, and in TV land, the majority always rules.

There's no denying Sandara's waif-like appeal, and certainly the audience identified with her when she was the underdog, the outsider, the lost little girl during the contest. But the so-called "X-factor" has to do with capturing the public imagination. Perhaps it's Sandara's very blandness that has made her so popular. Cut off from expressing herself fully by the language barrier, a stranger in a strange land, she can be anything her fans want her to be, a blank screen on which they can project their own fantasies and dreams.

Finally, the interview, in between bites of "spaghetti chicken."

Sandara: "I think I don't have talent, that's why I'm going to Korea, to learn more."

Me: "You don't think you have talent? But talent isn't everything. There are plenty of talented people who are not as famous as you."

Sandara: "But I still want to be talented, so I can be proud of myself."

Me: "But you already have a successful movie and TV career."

Sandara: "Ya, but I'm shy and I want to show them more."

Me: "What are your long-term career plans?"

Sandara: "I want to be a singer."

Me: "But you already have a hit record! Don't you consider yourself a singer yet?"

Sandara: "Yes (meaning 'no'). "Because I don't have time to prepare, and it's novelty songs. I want to sing serious songs. Challenging songs. In English and Tagalog."

I found it kind of touching that Sandara wants to deserve her success. It's true, most of her critics point out her lack of what most people would consider "talent": the ability to sing in a pleasing manner, act convincingly, and dance fluidly—next to good looks, the building blocks of a local showbiz career. But I wouldn't worry too much, if I were her. In the age of media, celebrity is a talent in itself, and arguably one more important than singing, dancing or acting. Let's face it, in the Philippines, talent is cheap. We've got talent to burn. But star quality, that's rare.

Sure, you need to be able to sing and act, so you can crank out products into the marketplace—CDs or movies or TV shows. And obviously, you need to look good. But these are really secondary concerns: In the age of media, image is all and Sandara is a true child of the age of celebrity, the image made flesh. Or is it the other way around?

The official reason given for Sandara's seemingly abrupt departure last December for her native Korea was that she would be taking voice lessons there. (True to showbiz form, the rumor mill ran overtime: Some speculated that she was pregnant, others said she had been deported by the Bureau of Immigration. Not true, say her handlers: Her work permits are in order. And, she pays her taxes.)

According to some press reports, her management wanted her to focus on acting and TV appearances—endeavors more suited to her present abilities. But Sandara's dream is really to sing. Her admiration for Sarah Geronimo is well known, and this apparently is the path she wants to follow.

Too hectic

Things had also gotten too hectic for her here, with live appearances and tapings every day of the week. Sandara was exhausted, and the only way she could go back to a normal existence was to go back to Korea, where she now has a pending application for college. She says she is still trying to decide between taking up mass communications or music. But she has signed up for five months of voice lessons, she says, and she'll continue to train in preparation for her next album.

Me: "Have you considered a career in Korea?"

Sandara: "Yes, but maybe not now."

Me: "I've heard that there was a film about you on Korean TV." ("My Name Is Sandara Park," a Korean TV documentary on the Sandara phenomenon here)

Sandara: "It's nice, but actually they don't care about me, because in Korea talent is very important."

Me: "How was that received in Korea?"

Sandara: "Mixed. Some of them are proud of me, but some of them, they don't understand why I am famous here, when they see I don't know how to sing, I don't know how to dance, I don't know how to act. They still love me. And now everybody forget about me."

Sandara's family moved to the Philip-

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Managing Editor — Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz
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SUMMER DELIGHTS This summer, indulge in a truly calming ambience while sampling the fresh flavors of Taro, Tortilla and Wasabi Chips dipped in Mango or Tomato Salsa; Carrots and Daikon (Oriental Radish) Sticks with Sweet Miso Dip; Sesame Walnuts; and Shrimp Crackers with Lemongrass Soya Sauce at the Lobby Lounge, 1/L Makati Shangri-La, tel. 813-8888 ext. 7588 or 7599. *For more of This Week, see page 7*

GO ARWIND

I AM a big fan of Magnolia's King Tamaraw Arwind Santos because I like the way he plays his game. He always gives his all. When I read your article ("From Hard Knocks to Hardcourt Hero," **SIM,** 24 April 2005), I was really surprised at all the things that I still don't know about him. I was all smiles while reading it. I am very proud of what he has achieved in his basketball career. I know that because of that article more people will know him not only for his greatness on the court, but also for his golden heart. I am very proud to be a fan of a college basketball superstar. I hope he will go a long way because he deserves it.

I totally loved the article, so I let all my relatives from the US read it. I hope you will feature more of Arwind. You made my week.

TRINA MENDOZA
trina22_ganda19@yahoo.com

ARWIND FAN

I WANT to congratulate you for a job well done. I am an Arwind Santos fan, and I am very happy that many people are starting to recognize his talent. As I was reading the article, I couldn't help but cry. I always admired Arwind for being such a good player and son to his parents. I just want to thank you for featuring him. The article made me realize a lot of things. One is that I am very lucky to have both my parents still alive. Another is that I should learn to work hard for what I want. If ever Arwind is reading this, I just want to say, you are such a great person. You deserve whatever you have. I hope your career will go a long way, especially in the pro league. Dont worry, I and all your fans will continue to support you. Keep up the good work. Thanks again, **SIM,** for featuring Arwind Santos. The article rocked my world. Go fight, Tamaraws!

TRISH
feu_tams_rule19@yahoo.com

BIANCA REVEALED

IT'S BEEN ages since somebody as refreshingly unclad as Bianca Gonzalez has been featured in your somewhat dowdy magazine ("Enjoying Her Time in the Sun," **SIM,** 1 May 2005). I think you pulled it off without becoming tabloid-ish. I also think you could—or should—do it again!

As beautiful Filipinas go, her sunny smile should provide any half-hearted patriot with a reason, in this time of crisis and half-hearted governance, to be proud to be both male and Filipino once more.

GERARDO REYNALDO
jojo_rsg@yahoo.com

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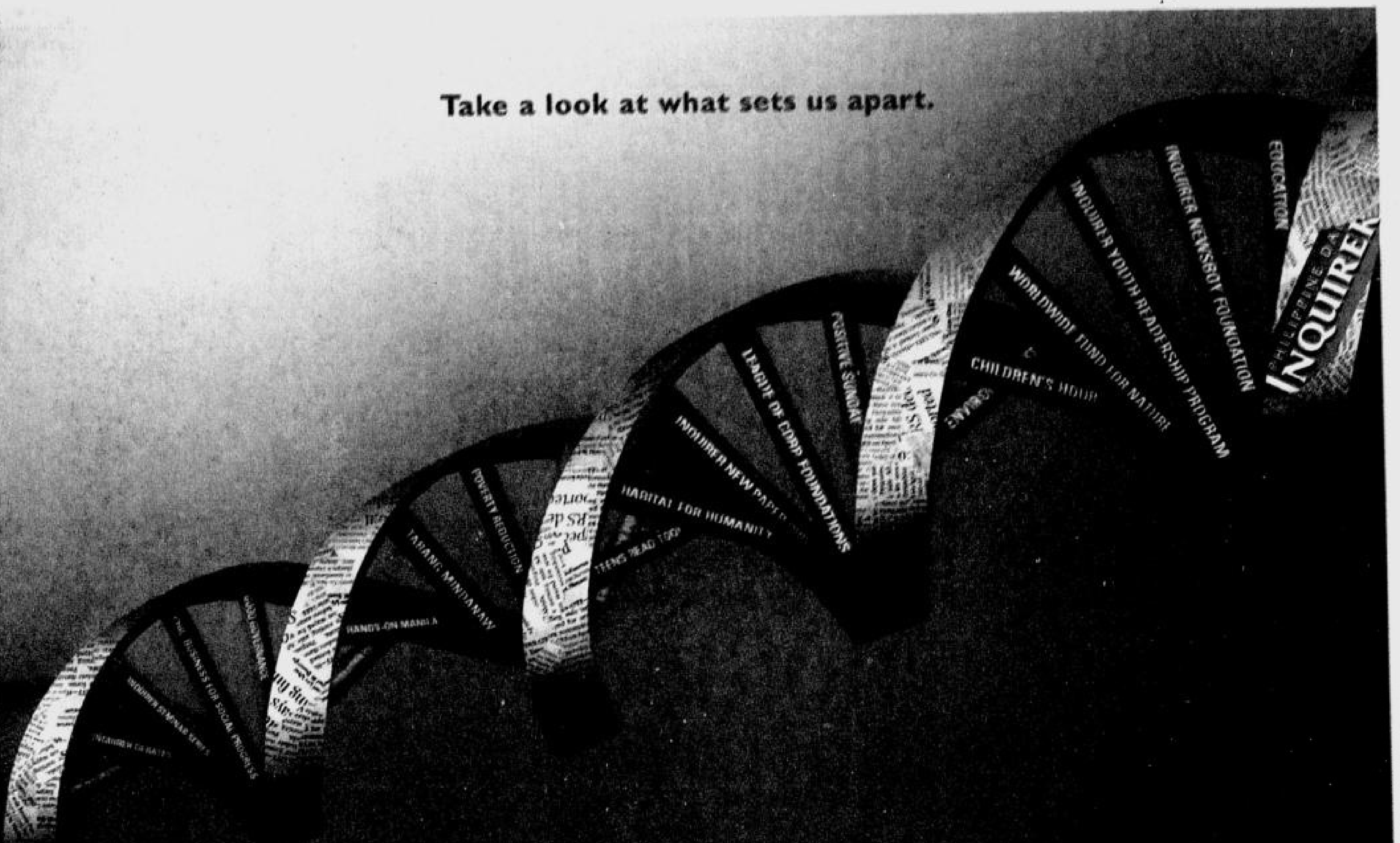
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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Part of what forms our identity as the leading broadsheet in the country is our innate desire to do more than just report the news. We also do something about it.

Our inherent traits include spearheading and supporting various programs that promote environmental awareness and protection, youth readership and development, and poverty alleviation. This is how we help give these causes the attention and assistance they deserve.

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

WHY THIS AD COULD SOON BE
A THING OF THE PAST

(and why anyone involved in marketing and sales should sit up and take notice before it's too late)

Why is it that people talk about a bigger global market, but your own market seems to be shrinking?

Why is it that the population is growing, but your sales are decreasing? Or that you're selling more than ever, but your profitability is getting lower?

And why is it that, even as more people get mobile phones and e-mail addresses, it's become even harder to reach your target market?

The challenges abound, but the solutions seem to be few and far between. For instance, how can you really increase your sales when your budget has been slashed? How can you build your brand when even multi-national corporations are complaining about the expense involved in developing their brands?

The solution?

Confused? Scared? Frustrated? You're not alone. Several other companies, here and abroad, have faced those challenges. And surprisingly, they are now willing to share with you what they did to overcome those challenges.

It wasn't easy to get the country's fastest growing bank to talk about what they did to grow. And it's not everyday that you can learn how a local company can compete successfully against global giants not just in the Philippines, but in other parts of Asia as well. But this year, on May 25 & 26, you can be part of a select group of people who can hear about, and learn from, these companies.

Learning from outside

But that's not enough for today's Filipino companies, who now have to learn to compete not just against each other, but against companies in Asia and the rest of the world. The Japanese, after all, had no qualms about learning from the Western countries in order to do better. The VP from the world's fifth largest agency network is flying in from Singapore. A co-author of Philip Kotler is flying in from Indonesia. The senior vice president of Adidas Salomon is flying in from Hong Kong.

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The only chance you will have this year

All these talented individuals are coming together at the 36th **National Marketing Conference,** at the invitation of the Philippine Marketing Association. **You do not even have to be a member of the Philippine Marketing Association to take advantage of the low rate of P8,500 for the full 2-day conference.** (Just imagine how much it would have cost you if you had to fly in all these high-powered individuals for your company, and pay for their consultation fees!)

The rate of P8,500 is only available to Filipino delegates, as foreign delegates have to pay US$300 to attend this conference, so do not let this opportunity go to waste. Call 849-69-36 to book a slot for the 36th National Marketing Conference today.

Philippine Marketing Association
36th National Marketing Conference
May 25 – 26, 2005
Westin Philippine Plaza

Love Notes

Joe D'Mango

Not the Same Fate

I promised myself I would never make the same mistake as my mom, that I would never give myself to anyone completely. Then I met Xander

Dear Joe,

Just call me Cassy. I was born out of wedlock. My father left us upon knowing that my mother was pregnant. That's why I promised myself that I would never make the same mistake as my mom, that I would never give myself to anyone completely.

Three years ago, I met Xander, and for the first time in my life I felt what people call love. Though I told him so many times that I didn't love him, he was still there when I needed a friend. Before I knew it, I was already falling for him. We got along very well, until that fateful day when he fetched me from the office and took me to a beach resort. There he had a sumptuous dinner prepared, and to the sound of splashing waves he proposed to me. Joe, I said "no" in spite of the voices in my mind telling me to say "yes." I knew how my answer brought pain to Xander, and it clearly showed in his eyes. He told me he had the right to know why. I told him that knowing the reason wouldn't change anything. Still, he insisted, so I told him everything, and also suggested that maybe we should just let go. When I got home, tears were falling from my eyes.

I resigned from my job and stayed in our province just to avoid him, hoping that wounds would heal and he would find a better woman. But Joe, I failed, because my love for him never faltered. It even became more intense. So I decided to go back to Manila after a year. Our paths crossed again, but this time, things were more complicated because he was now engaged. He said his parents chose Mitch for him. He also told me that he still loves me, and he's willing to cancel his upcoming wedding just to be with me.

But how can I accept him knowing that somebody is going to be hurt? How can I tell my mom, the person I owe my life to, that I am breaking my promise? I don't even know if I can stand before my mom and tell her all of these. Please show me the right path, because I am really torn between my love for my mom and Xander. And there's the love that I see in Mitch's eyes every time she looks at Xander.

Cassy

Dear Cassy,

I understand why you feel so strongly about getting into a relationship. I know how difficult it must have been for your mom, raising you all by herself. Your closeness is something that not all daughters share with their mothers. It is something that you should be thankful for. But Cassy, you and your mom are two different individuals. What happened to her may not necessarily happen to you, too. Choosing not to submit yourself to anyone in a loving relationship because you are afraid of being in the same situation your mom was may not be all that good for you. I know she wouldn't want you to have the same fate, but believe me, she wouldn't want to see you alone and lonely all your life, either. She knows that you are happy with her, but she also wants to see you happy in a real relationship with someone whom you can start a family with.

Getting into a relationship will always have its risks and consequences. It is part of life, loving, hurting and getting hurt. Cassy, loving someone else doesn't mean that you don't love your mom anymore, and she would know that. Living your own life doesn't mean living it without her. You have to realize that you, too, have to find your place in this world.

Xander still loves you and you are still very much in love with him. Marrying someone we don't really love is the greatest mistake that we can ever make in our lives. And he is just about to make that mistake. But remember, even if he is willing to make a stand, he wouldn't be able to stay upright long if you don't make a stand as well. The only way that this is going to work is if both of you commit to what you believe in. It may hurt a few people in the process, but that would be better than living a lie with them.

Cassy, this is a choice that you and Xander have to make and you only have one chance at doing it. I have always believed that people in love should fight for their feelings because in the end those who will are the only ones who won't live a life full of regret, but a life full of inspiring memories to share.

People for the Planet

by Amadis Ma. Guerrero

The Grandson Also Rises—and He's Defending Mother Nature, As Well

Like his *lolo*, the great Lorenzo Tañada, young lawyer Toby Tañada is a nationalist and a human rights advocate. Now, as Executive Director of Earth Day Network Philippines, he also hopes to bring out the environmentalist in every Filipino

HE'S got everything going for him: wealth, good looks (matrons swoon over him), youth, a loving family, an excellent education, a successful career, and a family name to reckon with. To top it all, he seems so unspoiled by all this, and maintains he's the product of a "normal" childhood.

Meet Wigberto R. Tañada, Jr. (Toby to friends and associates), son of (former senator) Wigberto and Azucena Tañada, and grandson of the late Lorenzo Tañada, the distinguished legislator, lawyer, nationalist, and human rights activist long known for his stand against the US bases and the Marcos dictatorship.

Toby was born in Manila on August 13 ("the same as my father"), 1964, the second of four children. His elder brother, Erin, is a congressman, and they have two younger sisters, Marites and Trina. Later the family moved to San Lorenzo and Dasmariñas Villages in Makati, where the children grew up.

"It was a regular, ordinary childhood," Toby recalls. "I was into basketball, hiking and soccer. It was as normal a childhood as one could have." It was the Ateneo de Manila all the way for him, from grade school to college and law school. Toby was, in his own words, "an average student."

He has fond memories of his grandfather Lorenzo, or *Ka* Tanny as he was called. "We would have reunions every other week," he remembers. "There were 46 first cousins, and my father had nine siblings. Lolo had this farm, a resthouse in Novaliches, up to the 1970s. Then they had a house in Tagaytay. Sometimes we would spend the night sleeping everywhere, all the cousins. Lolo had this habit of waking up at 4 a.m. to read, so he would be tiptoeing all over the grandchildren!"

The first cousins were quite close and include activist Karen Tañada, "the eldest of the third generation."

Expectedly, exposure to the national situation came early. In 1978, during the elections for the Interim Batasang Pambansa (IBP), the opposition had called for a noise barrage. "We went out driving, honking our horns," Toby says. "Kris Aquino also spoke on the stage, campaigning for her father."

The noise barrage was a success, meriting international attention. But the martial law regime had rigged the elections, and all the opposition candidates lost.

February 1986 found Toby at Edsa I. "It was an exciting year to be in college," he declares. He graduated the following month with an A.B. degree in Political Science, completed his law studies four years later, and took the Bar examinations.

Exciting year

This Atenean is married to a La Sallian, Marla Moran, born and raised in Bukidnon, and incidentally a second cousin of Margie Moran Floirendo. "We met at a bar in Makati," Toby says with a laugh. "What got my attention was that she had joined a farmers' march to protest the killing of farmers (at Mendiola, during the Aquino Administration). She was also against the US bases, and that's how it started. She's pretty much anti-(US President) Bush these days."

They have two children, Gabrielle, 8, and Noah, 5.

After passing the Bar, Toby joined the family firm Tañada, Vivo and Tan. Interesting cases that he has handled include that of the Kuratong Baleleng witnesses and the labor suit against the Hong Kong-Shanghai Banking Corporation.

In the mid-1990s, Francis Pangilinan (now senator) had asked for assistance from the FLAG (Free Legal Assistance Group) lawyers, and Toby got together with Arno Sanidad and Chel Diokno to lawyer for the witnesses to the killings of the notorious kidnap gang members. The police said this was a shootout, while others claimed it was a rubout gangland style.

"We wanted to protect the witnesses and their rights," Toby says. "Unfortunately, it was a long period. They could no longer be cooped up in the Witness Protection Program, so one by one they left. Now there's a new set of witnesses, but I'm no longer involved in the case. There's also a case pending in the Supreme Court on whether Sen. Panfilo Lacson et al may still be prosecuted."

On the other hand, the workers of the Hong Kong-Shanghai Bank had struck way back in 1973, and the case was first handled by the labor leader Ignacio Lacsina, who died in 1995. The bank alleged that the workers had illegally abandoned their jobs, and dismissed them. In turn, the workers filed a case against the bank for illegal dismissal.

Public pressure

Out of the original 180 who had filed suit, 57 are still pursuing the case. "Luckily, 18 of the 57 won a partial victory when the Court of Appeals ruled that they were to be awarded P61 million," Toby reports. "But they have not received it yet. The amount is still being disputed, and is subject to computations by the NLRC (National Labor Relations Commission)."

A few of the dismissed workers managed to find jobs. One even became a lawyer and is now defending his former officemates. "But most were not able to find work, so life's been very difficult for them," observes Toby.

Three years ago, this lawyer became an environmentalist when he became spokesperson of the Sagip Pasig Movement, a community-based NGO which seeks to rehabilitate the Pasig River. Sagip Pasig, with Myrna Jimenez as executive director,

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AUGUST DELA CRUZ

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by Mabel Guia Acosta

It Might As Well Have Been the Day the Music Died

People who've met Bella Dy Tan of Univesal Records will always remember her boundless cheer and homemade feasts. But local recording artists know her best for being the caring mother who nurtured Original Pilipino Music

Photos courtesy of JEFFREY TAN from the Universal Records Archives

> *"People will forget what you said; people will forget what you did. But people will never forget how you made them feel."*

IF Philippine movies have a Mother Lily, the local recording world since the '70s, had a Bella Dy Tan who, until her death of lung cancer on April 26, 2005, was managing director of Universal Records. She was the executive producer of bestselling Original Pilipino Music (OPM) artists Gary Valenciano, the Apo Hiking Society, Kuh Ledesma, Celeste Legaspi, Jay-R and Parokya ni Edgar, among others.

Recording artist Jose Mari Chan described Bella as being "devoted to the growth of OPM from the very start." The eldest daughter of Dr. James Dy, founder of Dyna Records, had always believed "in developing and packaging local artists and their original music," says Chan. "This, despite the onslaught of western music and the effects of piracy on the company's bottom line."

To counter the dominance of TV network artists on radio and TV, the ever resourceful Bella came out with novel ways to expose local artists and their music to the public, Chan recalls. "Although she gave me total control over the songs I wrote and complete freedom in production, she would listen to my recorded material for days on end and would get back to me with constructive criticism. I always listened to her because I trusted her ear and her nose for music. She knew what would sell and what would crash. In her own right, Bella was an artist who appreciated and acknowledged the artistry and talent of her stars."

Taking risks

Alternative music artist Joey Ayala remembers Bella as someone who "was never afraid to take risks." The woman was very open minded, he adds. "She was willing to give alternative artists a chance to be part of the mainstream, including Parokya ni Edgar."

Tokyo-based but still much-sought after saxophonist Jake Concepcion recalls how Bella heard a demo tape of his and immediately signed him up for a recording. But her best trait was her cheer, he adds. "Believe me, there were a lot of happy times with Bella, her laughter and the feasts she served."

The last song that Bella heard was "Break Me"— the new song from Gary Valenciano's upcoming album

Adds her son Jeffrey: "Mom's first question after welcoming a guest was, 'Have you eaten?' Even when she was already sick, she'd personally cook for you if you visited her at home." Jeffrey would always remember his mother as someone who gave her best in everything. "She would always tell me, 'If you do something give it your best, 110 percent, or don't do it all.' I will also remember her laughter. People would say upon meeting my mom, there are two things you will not forget about her: the smile and the laughter."

Bella's warmth as a person was something that the Apo Hiking Society cannot forget. Says Jim Paredes: "She was very motherly to her talents, very caring. We were like her brothers and she was our sister. She was more personal than businesslike. During birthdays or any big moments of Apo, she would always send something. There would always be Christmas gifts from Universal, always something unique. And we could call her anytime. Even when she was suffering from cancer, we were texting each other all the time."

Dy, who considered Bella the apple of his eye, confided that he often got letters from his favorite daughter asking him to help some people. Adds her son, Jeffrey, "To some degree she helped people to a fault. But that was the way my mom was."

Bella, an active voice in the Filipino-Chinese Chamber of commerce, was a hard worker, Jeffrey recalls. "She worked so hard because she wanted to please my grandfather," he adds, referring to Dy.

A good future

Although she gave 2/3 of her waking hours to the music industry, family meant a lot to Bella. Married to Jack Tan, who is in the travel business, she was a devoted mother to Jacklyn, 27, and Jeffrey, 22. "Growing up with her frequent absences was difficult for me and my sister," says Jeffrey. "But she tried to make up for them, and we understood how all that hard work was meant to give us a good future." Travelling together was something that the family particularly enjoyed, and Bella was always there for meetings of the Parent-Teachers' Association, her friends observed.

Like a good parent, she allowed her children to chart their own paths, refusing to nudge them into the music industry where the family has a sizeable stake. Instead, Jacklyn pursued a career in the banking sector, while Jeffrey held his own in video production.

In 2001, Bella survived her first bout with cancer. She had ovarian surgery and underwent chemotherapy. She recovered and went back to work. But at the start of this year, a persistent cough hounded her. She shrugged it off until a check-up drove the family posthaste to Houston, Texas, where biopsies confirmed that Bella had stage 4 Leiomyosarcoma (LMS), a rare kind of cancer.

The doctors' assurances that she would get the best treatment made the family optimistic about Bella's chances. But on that fateful Tuesday evening, Jack, Jacklyn and Jeffrey knew they were going to lose her and gathered round. "Our only consolation was that mommy died peacefully. It would have been harder for us had she been attached to machines and feeding tubes and all that," says Jeffrey.

Bella's youngest, who is carving a name for himself in film and video production, adds: "There are many lessons that we learned from my mother's passing. My message to sons or daughters: Make your parents happy while you can. We tried everything and I guess she was happy."

Doctor Joseph Varon confirms this. "I never had a patient who would, day in and day out, pray for a miracle. And she got one—being with her family at the end. She was at peace with herself. She fought a difficult battle but she won it peacefully with God."

Towards the end, Bella did get to savor quality time with her family. In the last four months of her life, Universal Records took a backseat as the private life that she had sacrificed to pursue her passion for work finally took center stage. Says Jeffrey: "She had a fulfilled life. She realized how dedicated we were to her, as she was to us. She was happy. Mommy saw the value of a family."

Tireless effort

Bella's family in the music business will miss her, as well. Says Rudy Ty, Managing Director of Sony/BMG: "Bella's contribution to the music industry was her tireless effort and dedication in promoting our local talents. My fondest memory of her was enjoying the countless lunches and dinners that came while auditioning music."

For Jose Mari Chan, the song "Christmas Past" which he co-wrote with Louie Ocampo will always remind him of Bella: "It speaks about our Christmas memories of those we loved and who have passed away. That song obviously will now have a special meaning to it."

The song *"Sariwang Hangin"* from his first album, says Joey Ayala, will be his personal offering to the woman who chose that song as the carrier single. She was, after all, a breath of fresh air in the local music industry: "The first time I met her, I was very nervous although I was trying not to show it. But Bella was very friendly, always smiling and *marunong makinig talaga.* (She really listened)."

The Apo, who remember Bella telling them that they were the first Filipino artists to have a CD in the country, would have wanted to visit and serenade her in Houston when they toured the US. To their regret, she had passed on. They would have sang *"Paalam,"* a fitting way to say "so long" to a mother, friend, wife, sister and daughter.

The rest of the local music industry have a shared sentiment: Thank you for the music, Bella.

The Tan family: Jeffrey, Jacklyn, Jack and Bella on one of their European Tours

Paalam

Kapag sabihin ko di na tayo magkikita
Ako'y nalulumbay di makababay
O kay saklap naman ng pagpaalam.
Ngunit ayokong matapos nang ganito
Nang may samaan ng loob tayo
Ibig lang maalala sigla ng gating
pagmamahalang habang buhay

Kapag sabihin ko ako sa Iyo'y
nagpapasalamat
Sana'y tanggapin mo pagkat Ito'y tutoo
Galing lamang Ito sa puso ko
Galing lamang Ito sa'king puso.

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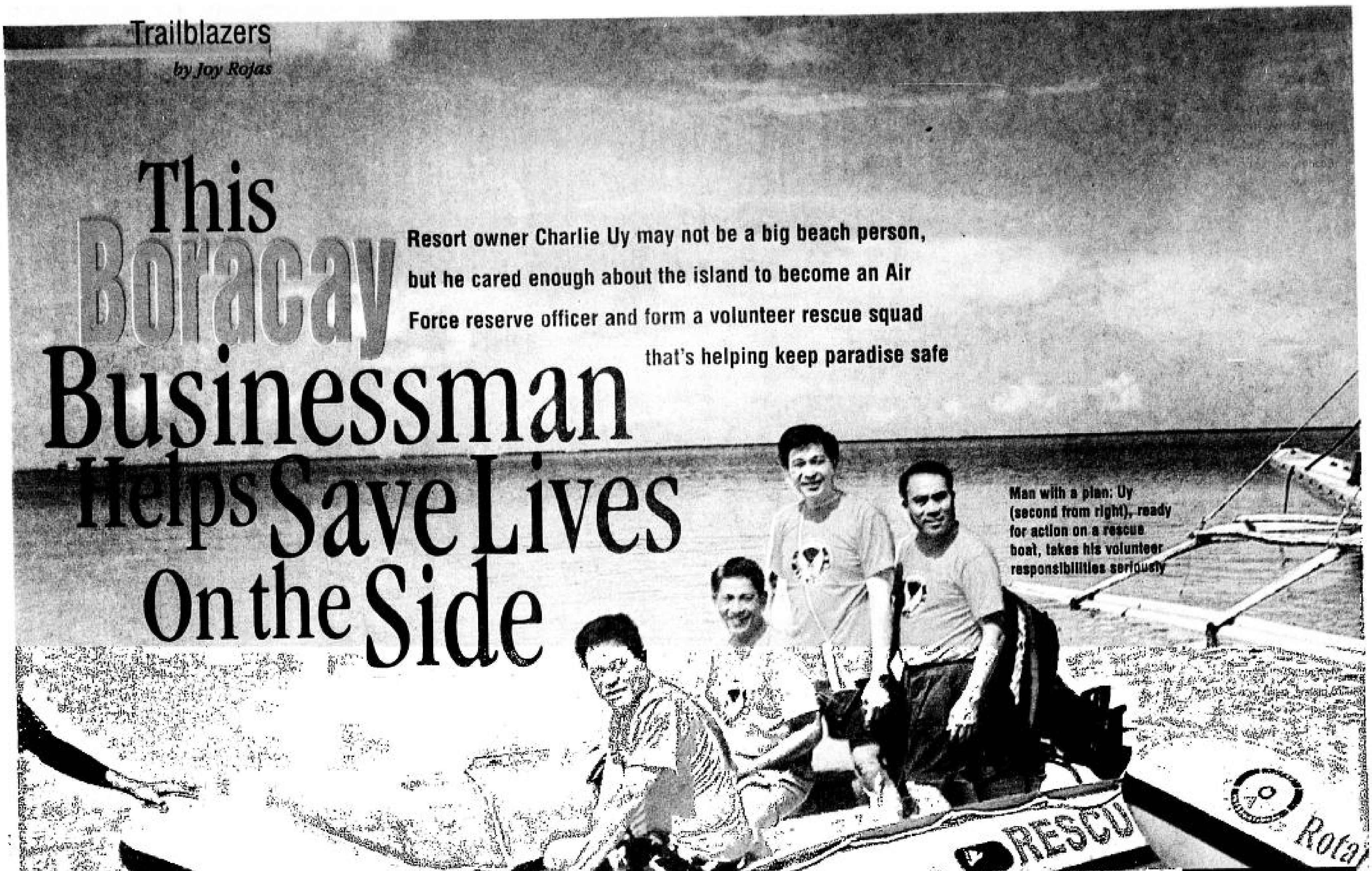
Trailblazers

by Joy Rojas

This Boracay Businessman Helps Save Lives On the Side

Resort owner Charlie Uy may not be a big beach person, but he cared enough about the island to become an Air Force reserve officer and form a volunteer rescue squad that's helping keep paradise safe



Man with a plan: Uy (second from right), ready for action on a rescue boat, takes his volunteer responsibilities seriously

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

WHEN a helicopter landed on the lawn of Swiss consul Daniel Vogel's house in Boracay, it was as if a blessing had fallen from the sky. His mother, then 75, was suffering from a severe aneurysm of the stomach and was in need of immediate medical attention. But her delicate condition required her to stay as still as possible; transporting her to the nearest hospital via banca or car was clearly out of the question. The chopper, which came from Mactan, Cebu, flew her all the way to the Philippine General Hospital, where she received treatment in the nick of time. Once fully recovered, she asked to meet the person responsible for her life-and-death rescue. Vogel tracked the man down, and upon his arrival in Boracay, his mother met this virtual stranger with kisses. "You are my savior!" she cried.

That's all in a day's work for Charlie Uy, whose 24th Reserve Airlift and Tactical Support Squadron is the group of volunteers behind many of Boracay's dramatic search and rescue operations. A habitué of the popular beach resort island since the early '80s, Uy grew increasingly alarmed at the fact that a crowd-drawing destination like Boracay (an estimated 70,000 guests spent last Holy Week here) offered next to no search and rescue provisions, and little local government support. Although a coast guard presence has since been added on the island (there was none when Uy launched his squadron in 1997), Boracay makes do with a single fire truck, an old and dilapidated model that failed to do its job when a huge fire gutted the *talipapa* last January 21.

Fully aware

Not wanting to sit still, and yet fully aware that he could only do so much as a civilian, Uy had himself commissioned on the reservist side of the Philippine Air Force at an age when most guys begin counting down the days to their retirement. "I was almost 50 at the time," he chuckles. "The age limit is 60." After undergoing intensive training, Uy, now a lieutenant colonel and commander of search and rescue missions in Boracay and the Visayas, has been training volunteers on the rudiments of search and rescue operations for the past eight years.

The course, a 15-day, 10-hours-a-day program, involves classroom lectures on basic life support and swimming techniques, actual helicopter rappelling and sea operations, and a culminating activity wherein participants practice their skills in a simulated rescue. Offered off-season, the course attracts many of the island's residents; perhaps the chance to ride a helicopter has something to do with it. Uy, however, would rather believe that it's the sense of volunteerism that fuels participants—from tricycle drivers and *bangkeros* to employees of the island's 200 establishments—to finish the course and stay on. This year alone, the commander has trained 44 new recruits, and refreshed the skills of 18 original volunteers.

The island could certainly use all the help. Previous years have seen the squadron comb Boracay's waters for a Taiwanese lady who was reported missing after not having returned from her day of kayaking. Vigilant rescuers found her 10 days later, dead. An Israeli national was luckier; the group managed to get him out of the batcaves where he was trapped. Aircraft access (Uy, by the way, owns a Cessna and learned how to fly it) also proves a godsend in these critical situations. Besides transporting the Swiss consul's mother safely, Philippine Air Force helicopters flew an Italian journalist from Boracay to the Villamor Airbase in Manila where an ambulance en route to the Makati Medical Center was waiting for her. Commercial airlines refused to fly her back to the city after a freak kiteboarding accident (instead of landing on the sea like she should, she landed on the beach and right smack into a concrete post) left her with a crushed ankle and a ruptured vein.

On their toes

While search and rescue missions are a rare occurrence in Boracay these days, Uy and his team remain on their toes. To help put out the *talipapa* fire, the volunteers formed a long line and passed buckets of water from the sea to the site of the blaze. Others contained the fire within the area by detaching the flammable roofs of nearby establishments and dousing them with water. The catastrophe caused extensive damage to property, but thankfully, no lives were lost.

Uy's desire to extend a helping hand—"I'd like to believe that it's my life's mission," he says—began many years before his search and rescue crew. It was while taking his master's degree that the true-blue La Sallite would meet a mentor in the MBA program's dean and professor, Andy Reyes. "One day, he asked me if I was free and if I wanted to join him," relates Uy. Unbeknownst to Uy, Reyes had brought him to his first Jaycees meeting, and while Uy, who was 22 at the time, wanted to back out, the warmth and camaraderie he experienced instantly in the leadership and civic-oriented group anchored him. "It was like they had known me all their lives," he says.

JOSEPH AGCAOILI

Always an employer: Giving jobs is the way to help people, says Uy

Professionally, Uy continues his quest to help others by providing them with stable income. "I felt the way to help people indirectly is through jobs," he says. "That's why I've never been an employee, I've always been an employer." He's been into printing, exporting local handicrafts, and was the pioneer in bringing in video games like Pong and Pacman to these shores, "until President Marcos banned them in 1981," he says wryly.

Nothing to something

Today, it's his real estate holding company Charlex and its most high-profile property, the Boracay resort Patio Pacific, that provides people with the opportunity to improve the quality of their lives through a decent living. If the former Pink Patio has evolved from a rustic six-room affair to a triple A beach resort boasting a chill-out lounge, the only wall-climbing facility in Boracay, a wellness center, and three guard dogs trained to sniff out suspicious luggage, its loyal staff has truly come a long way as well. "My chief cook used to be my neighbor, who was a plain housewife," informs Uy. "And my chief engineer was once a construction worker. It's gratifying when you see people turn their lives from nothing to something."

Uy can definitely relate. "One satisfying thing about Patio Pacific is that I started it from nothing," he says. "And yet I was able to improve the business by applying what I learned from my travels."

And speaking of travel, the irony of Uy, who is forever shuttling to and from Boracay, is that he is not a beach person at all. If the self-described "simple guy, I don't smoke or drink" had his way, he would love to soak up the sights and culture of a country he has yet to explore.

And yet, Uy will gladly fly back to Boracay, if only to see for himself how his modern beach resort is helping guests relax and have the time of their lives. "The last time I was there," he beams, "we were 100 percent booked."

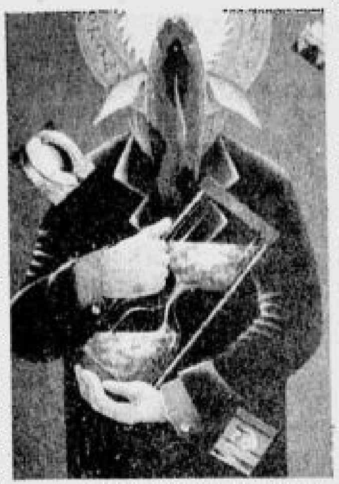
"Life's mission": Uy (left), who flies a Cessna, can handle both land and air rescues

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

This Week

Art

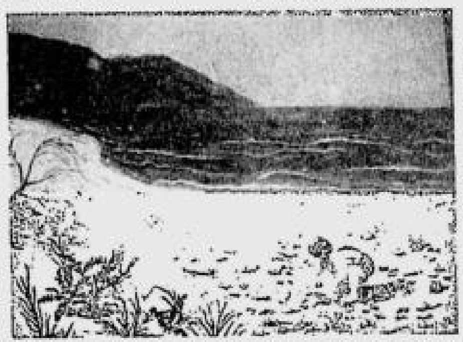
Julio Austria mounts his first solo exhibition entitled, **Urban Jungle**, at the Cultural Center of the Philippines Pasilyo Victorio Edades, opening on May 12, 6 p.m. Urban Jungle is open to public until June 19. Gallery hours are from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily except Mondays and holidays. For information, please call 832-3702.



"Time" by Mishab Tibon, at the Pinto Art Gallery in Antipolo

Painter, sculptor, writer and lifestyle/fashion photographer Andy Maluche pays humorous homage to contemporary multiplicity of art and its conveyors in **Polycreationists**, his first solo exhibit at Magnet Gallery Paseo, located at G/F Paseo Center, Paseo de Roxas corner Sedeno Sts., Makati City. The exhibition will run until May 16. For inquiries, please contact Jhennie at 929-3191 or Genevieve at 817-7895, or e-mail magnet@pldtdls.net.

Priscilla Teodoro breaks her nine years of silence with a month-long exhibit, **A Walk through Magical Zen Realities**, featuring artworks emanating turn-of-the-millennium energies and focusing on Zen moments. The artist turned Unit 408 of Mayfield Park into an entire artwork from flooring to ceiling, calling it her "thesis to the Silence." Prissy will show past works including furniture art using an array of media such as eggshells, watermelon seeds, onion skin and rice husks, among others. Among her new artworks to be shown are batik on silk paintings. The exhibit formally opens on May 14. There will be a screening of Japanese films, as well as tai-chi and qigong sessions, on May 15. The Clubhouse exhibit will run until June 15, with Unit 408 available for special viewing upon request. Mayfield Park is beside Makro, Along Imelda Ave., Pasig.



"Growing Season," Dyna Quizon-Ondoy's debut solo exhibit, on view at the Food and Art Gallerie

Angelo Magno presents his **minimalist gestural drawings** which evoke Japanese sensibilities at the Chocolate Kiss Café, 2/F UP Bahay ng Alumni, from May 8 to 31.

Forza Interna, a twin exhibit of nude photographs by Frank Hoefsmit and Jorell Legaspi, will be shown until May 20 at the Galerie Astra, 2/F LRI Business Plaza, 210 Nicanor Garcia St. (formerly Reposo), Bel-Air II, Makati City. Call 890-3988, 724-3032 or 726-9015.

Music

Concert at the Park features WUDS, one of the icons of Philippine rock music, on May 8 starting at 6 p.m. at the Rizal Open-Air Auditorium, Manila. WUDS, composed of Bobby Baingit (lead guitar/vocals), Aji Adriano (drums and percussion) and Alfred Guevara (bass guitar/vocals), has been performing in various places in the country. Concert at the Park is a weekly public-service project of the National Parks Development Committee, under Executive Director Carlito A. Fajardo. It is regularly aired, courtesy of the National Broadcasting Network on Channel 4 every Sunday at 5 p.m. Admission is free.

Madz Et Al, the Philippine Madrigal Singers' widest network of local and overseas-based Philippine choral groups, and Philamlife present **Triumphs of Oriana**, a 16th century collection of 24 madrigals to be showcased in a series of Madz Et Al Festival performances slated on May 14, 21 and 28 (3:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.) at the Philamlife Auditorium along United Nations Ave., Manila. A grand choral celebration is set to mark the opening of this year's Madz Et Al Festival. Capping the festival is a grand choral serenade to be performed in honor of the Blessed Virgin on May 31 (7 p.m.) at the Maria Della Strada Parish along Katipunan Ave., Quezon City, in which the public and choral aficionados are enjoined to take part for free. For ticket inquiries and student discounts on Madz Et Al's Philamlife performances, contact 0919-8442674, or e-mail perlita_reyes@yahoo.com.

Atbp

The UP Film Institute announces its next batch of workshops this summer. Headlining the roster of courses is the **35mm Cinematography Workshop** scheduled for May 16-21 with noted German cinematographer Jorg Shifferer as resource speaker. To be held at the Unitel production studios in Makati City, the workshop is open for only 20 participants and will use film stock donated by Kodak. The **Alternative Scriptwriting Workshop**, with award-winning scriptwriter Armando Lao as resource speaker, is scheduled on May 12-14. The rest of the summer workshop schedules are as follows: **Basic Flash Animation and Art Workshop**, May 23-27, and **Documentary Photography & Digital Printing Workshop**, also on May 23-27. For details, call Laisa/UPFI Extension at 925-0286 or 926-3640.

pelikula@titusbrandsma is looking **for short films of any genre** (documentaries, narrative, drama, etc.) to show in its monthly film dialogue sessions. Submit a copy in DVD/VCD/VHS format to any of the pelikula core group members. You may submit anytime. Enclose a sheet of paper that contains the following information: title, director's name, running time, synopsis, and cast and crew. Selection and programming of films will be decided by the pelikula@titusbrandsma core group. You can also submit your works and other requirement during its monthly film dialogue session at TBC. For details, call Jofti A. Villena at 726-6054 or fax 725-8167.

Build a solid foundation on the art and craft of photography at **Photoworks: Class 15**, conducted by NYFA and NYIP graduate Leo Castillo. Sessions start on May 11, every Mondays and Wednesdays, 7-10 p.m. at the DPI Photography Center, Jose Escriva Ave., Ortigas Center. Class fee is P3,500 for all six sessions. Slots are limited. For detailes, please contact Leo at 0917-8985362, or e-mail leo.castillo@gmail.com.

De La Salle University-Manila is inviting all print and broadcast journalists, and non-professional writers to join the **2nd Lasallian Scholarum Awards**, an annual journalism competition that supports and recognizes outstanding coverage of youth and education. Interested parties may choose from any of five categories: published feature article on youth and education for nationally circulated publications; published photograph on youth and education for newspaper; aired feature story on youth and education for television; published feature story on De La Salle University-Manila (television or newspaper); and unpublished feature story on youth and education. Winners will receive cash prizes and a glass sculpture especially designed by noted artist Ramon Orlina. Deadline for submission is on May 30. Please contact the Marketing Communication Office at 526-4237 or 526-5913, or e-mail at caluman@dlsu.edu.ph.

The Federation of Philippine Photographers Foundation, the organization behind the unprecedented growth of photography in the country, will hold a **three-day photography seminar for kids** aged 7 to 12 on May 10-12 at the Fort Santiago, Intramuros, Manila, with multi-awarded and veteran photography educator Ador Pamintuan as lecturer. Basic camera handling, camera parts, and how to use the aperture and shutter speed for better pictures will be discussed on the first day. On Day 2, participants will be taught how to see photographically and what to look for when taking pictures. The kids will have to present their photos for evaluation on the final day. Contact FPPF at 7/F Comfoods Bldg., Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City, tel. 843-5341 or 813-7320.

Join the fun on May 12 as the Batang ETV discovers the **beauty and wonder of nature** at the La Mesa Eco Park and Watershed. Register at the ABS-CBN Foundation, Mother Ignacia Ave. corner Eugenio Lopez St., Quezon City. The eco-tour is free for Batang ETV Kiddie Club members. Non-members may also join. Contact Alex Balite at 415-6296 or 415-2272 loc. 3765.

Julio Austria's "Rush Hour Chaos," on view at the CCP

There will be a **Starting Your Own Preschool/Child Care Services Business Orientation** on May 14, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at the ACCM Bldg. 102 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City. Fee includes snacks, certificate and course manual. Deadline for reservations is on May 13. Call 829-5711 or text 0919-8270776. Seats are limited

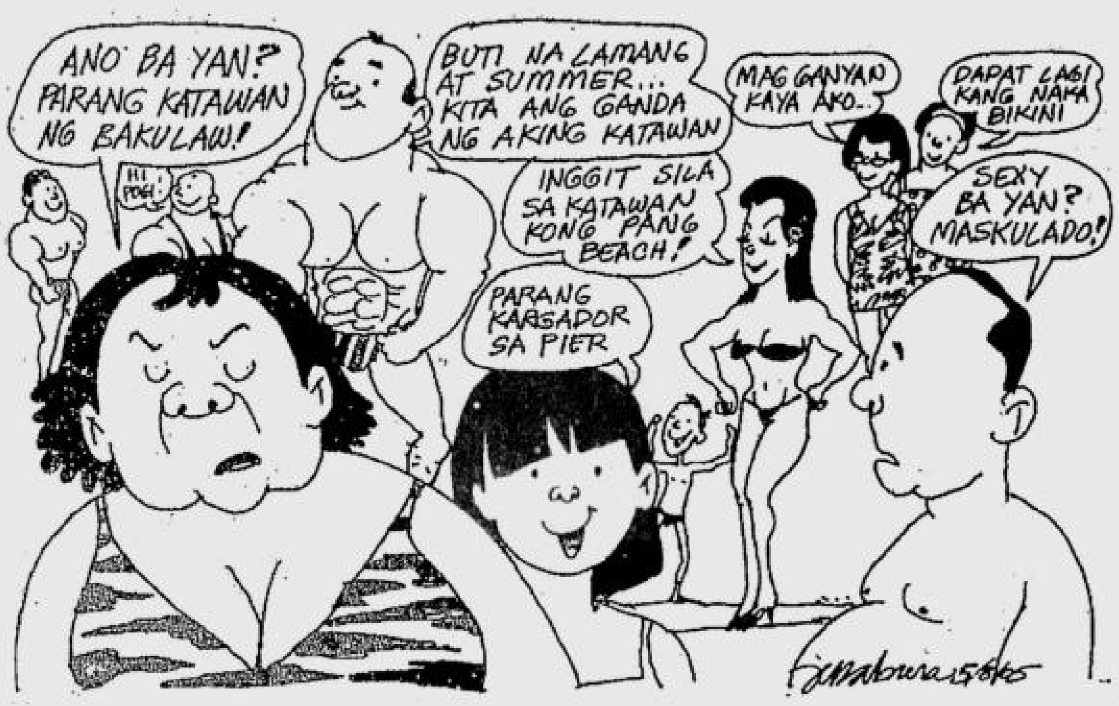
Ms. Ruby Ong of Reflections Bookshop, Hong Kong, will come to share her knowledge on **Mudra (using hands) Healing and Making Color Work in Our Life** on May 15, Sunday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., at the Sulo Hotel, Matalino Road, Diliman Quezon City. Call Jojo at 732-1778 or 0917-7937300.

"Birth of the Cosmos," a six-panel divider by Priscilla Teodoro, on view at Mayfield Park

On May 11-13, Cake-Decorator chef Ana Baluyot will help kids discover the fun in the kitchen with a **Kiddie Workshop** on cooking, baking and fun crafts. For the first day, the young chefs will learn how to make two kinds of Fried Rice, Pork Siomai, Chicken Macaroni Soup Chocolate Crispy Cookies, and Painted Cookies; for day two, Shrimp Tempura, Steamed Eggs, Chocolate Crinkles, and Apple Cookies; and on day three, Baked Honey Mustard Chicken, Baked Lasagna, Chocolate Chip Cookies and Oreo Cheesecake. Classes will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Pinoy Nga!

Body Beautiful

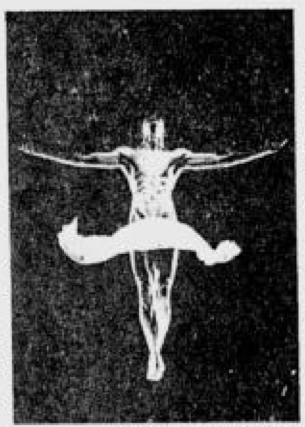

ANO BA YAN? PARANG KATAWAN NG BAKULAW!
HI POGI!
BUTI NA LAMANG AT SUMMER... KITA ANG GANDA NG AKING KATAWAN
INGGIT SILA SA KATAWAN KONG PANG BEACH!
PARANG KARSADOR SA PIER
MAG GANYAN KAYA AKO..
DAPAT LAGI KANG NAKA BIKINI
SEXY BA YAN? MASKULADO!
Sunabura 5.6.05

For this week's bands and schedules call:
- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules

Workshop fee is P3,600 for three days, or P1,200 per day. On May 8, there will be a **Sausage Workshop** to help start your own homemade sausage with Chef David's recipe for Italian Sausage, Morcilla or Blood Sausage, Longganisang Calumpit, Breakfast Pork Sausage, Seafood Sausage and Chorizo Jabali. A Taste of Vietnam is on May 9 with Chef Analie de Lemos of Vietnam Foodhouse teaching her recipes for Beef with Lemongrass, Grilled Beef with Pork Fat, Beef with Spices, Bo Nuong La Lot, Beef Congee, Beef Sate and Beef Barbecue with Lemon. The **Basic Sushi and Sashimi Class** will be on May 10 with Chef Gene Gonzales showing how to fillet a flat fish and the basic procedure for Rainbow Roll, Sushi Rice, Futo Maki, Gari, Aji, Uzuzukuri Sauce abd Tamago. On May 14, there will be **Lasap Tempting Favorites Class** also with Chef Gene Gonzalez. He will share his recipes for Adobog Crispy Pata, Tiyan ng Bangus sa Utaw, Sizzling Kuaket, Laing sa Laap, Sari-saring Lumpiang Paborito, Ensalada de Polo and Guinomis for dessert. All classes will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at P1,200 per session including ingredients, except for the Sausage Workshops and Basic Sushi and Sashimi, which are priced at P1,000 per session. The Center for Asian Culinary Studies is at Café Ysabel Restaurant at 455 P. Guevarra St., San Juan. Call 7255089 or 7269326, or visit www.cafeysabel.com.

X-manila



"Forza Interna," an exhibit by Frank Hoefsmit and Jorell Legaspi, ongoing at Galerie Astra

In celebration of the National Heritage Month, Pinto Art Gallery launches the **Fourth Antipolo Maytime Arts Festival** through a series of simultaneous exhibitions and cultural activities from May 8 to June 25. The festival features different artworks, from paintings to terracotta and stoneware pieces, by several artists from the regions as well as local young artists and upcoming painters. Pinto Art Gallery is located at 1 Sierra Madre St., Grand Heights, Antipolo City, Rizal. Please call 697-1015 (telefax), or log on to www.pintoartgallery.com for information.

The Creative Media Professionals Guild of Asia and the Pacific and the Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP) bring you the second part of **annual workshops for film and media practitioners** to be held at the DAP Conference Center and Hotel, Tagaytay City, May 9-13. Look for Own at the Workshop Business Office, Quezon City, tel. 926-1883, 925-1916, or Pam at 413-3840.

Sandara

...from page 2

pines from Korea when she was 10. It was a difficult transition for her. "It was really hard," she recalls. "I don't talk to people. I don't have friends, 'cause I cannot speak."

She was still learning English, now she had to learn Tagalog. On top of that, because her parents enrolled her in a Chinese school in Pasay, she had to take Mandarin lessons for three years. "Then I dropped Chinese. It was optional. I decided to have voice lessons."

Singing must have been a great release, as well as a bridge to the world around her, a way to overcome her isolation. "I went to the Center for Pop Music, so I start singing on stage and I overcome my shyness. I think I start speaking little by little. I joined SCQ and now I'm very active."

Sandara's success on "Star Circle Quest" plunged her, for better or for worse, into the world of Pinoy showbiz. As a bona fide star, her supposed love life is reported on in the showbiz press, although she says she doesn't have a boyfriend, here or in Korea. Schooled in the old showbiz ploys of innuendo and intrigue, fans didn't know what to make of Sandara's candor.

"They think I'm weird and very honest, so sometimes my fans get mad at me, 'cause I'm too honest," she says. Sometimes she gets cornered by the press into saying something about her supposed love interests, purely in the interest of the *"kilig"* factor. Now there's a lot of pressure for her to make her screen love team with Hero appear real, as part of the overall marketing strategy.

I ask her if she sometimes has to pretend, to tell the fans what they want to hear. "Ya, but that was the hardest thing to do, because I think I'm being plastic or showbiz," she says. "I don't know how to solve it."

Sandara's celebrity has also changed her family's life, to some extent. "Some people know my mom, when she goes to the market," she says. "And my brother and sister are famous in school. They don't like, 'cause they're shy types."

When she was here, Sandara liked to go with her friends—on her rare days off—to the movies, to arcades playing video games, to karaoke bars, or to have their photos taken at photo sticker booths. Now, in Korea, she's back where she started, on her own again. She says she still has to make friends in Korea, but it looks as if she's going to have to split her time between her native country—where she can live normally—and her adopted country, where her career is still going great.

In a sense, she's like an overseas contract worker, which is ironic because in "Can This Be Love?," she plays a Korean exchange student, and Hero plays a nursing student who wants to go abroad to become a caregiver. But she says her mother wants her to finish college, and maybe start a business. But if it were up to her, she says, "I don't want to be fad. I want to work here in this showbiz industry for 20 years, 30 years, 40 years, until I die."

Who can tell? This is the age of the disposable celebrity—here today, gone tomorrow. The sensible thing would be to strike while the iron is hot, save up those talent fees and put them in some high-yielding investment instruments, for the day when the cameras turn elsewhere.

"I think I deserve this place, because I tried my best and I'm still learning," says Sandara. "I don't have talent in singing, dancing and acting, but I think I have something that can make people laugh. Maybe it's my unique personality."

She may be right. Q

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Sen. Ralph Recto with Capt. Iran Dernier

Lilo Gutierrez, Kalaish, Arnold Martinez with a Moto RAZR V3 model

Moto RAZR V3 BLK captivates admirers

Motorola's Marketing Head Mari Litonjua flanked by F beauties Angel Aquino and Daphne Osena-

Flying High with MOTOROLA & Smart Infinity

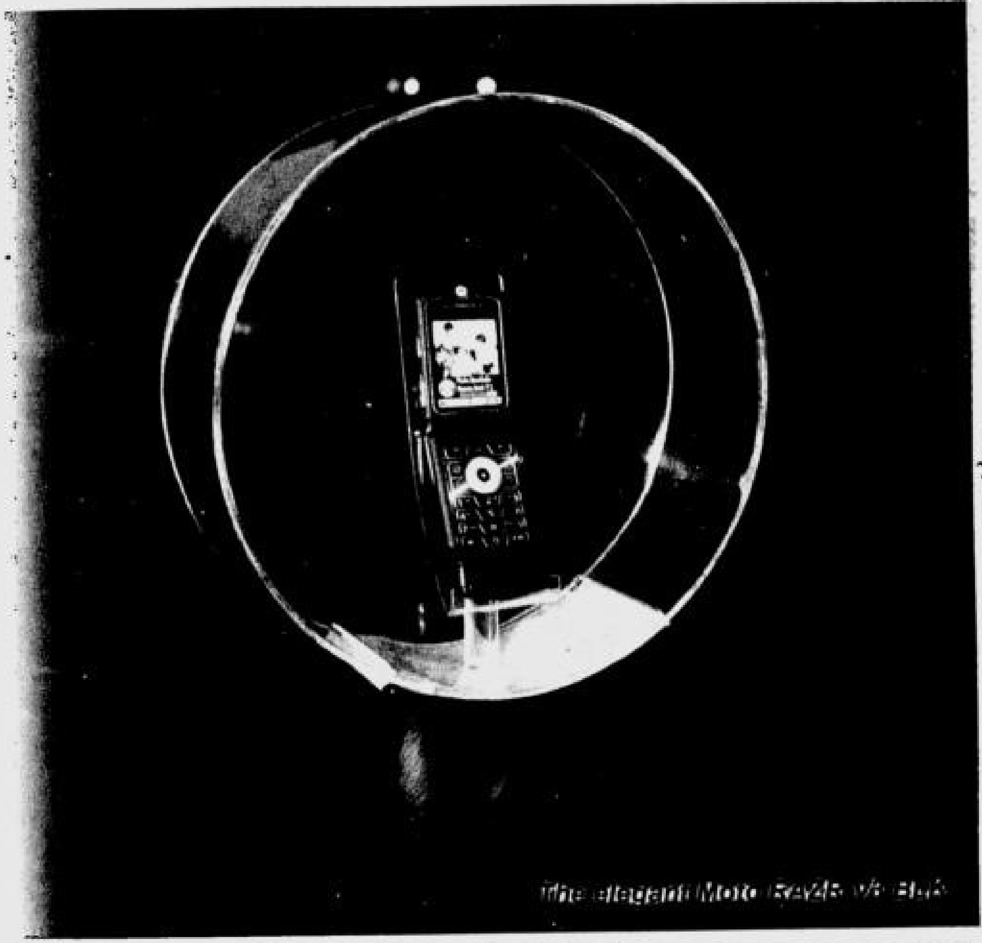
Motorola and Smart Infinity recently joined forces to host the most exciting and exclusive parties in town. Just like the recent revelry they sponsored-South East Asian Airlines (SEAIR) decade-old celebration held at Mati Restaurant in Rockwell.

The A-list guests, were privileged to be given a Moto RAZR V3 BLK for free if they subscribe to Smart Infinity that night. Captivating the guests with its superb looks and features, Motorola's latest handset offering is the ultimate, beautiful slim-phone. It's a quadband with VGA camera, video capture and player designed with metallic finishes and chemically-etched keys.

SEAIR Pioneer Iran Dernier thanked well-wishers including the Motorola team who came in full force to witness the event. On hand to be part of the festive celebration were Motorola Philippines' Country Manager for Mobile Devices Business Arlene Amarante, Marketing Head Mari Litonjua and Kim Balza. Adding pizzazz to the event were F beauties Angel Aquino and Daphne Osena-Paez playing host in this exclusive affair.

Senators Jamby Madrigal and Ralph Recto donned their party hats as were partyphiles Epi Quizon, Atom Henares and Amanda Griffin joined in. Pepper Teehankee and talent manager Girlie Rodis both won a SEAIR adventure pass while also seen were Bimbo Cerrudo, Pinky Marquez, Borgy Monotoc and Ornusa Cadness.

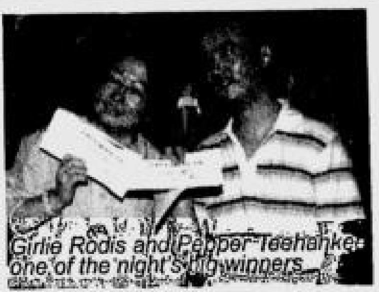
Stay tuned to more sizzling events with Motorola & Smart Infinity!


The elegant Moto RAZR V3 BLK

Hottest belle allured by Moto RAZR V3 BLK

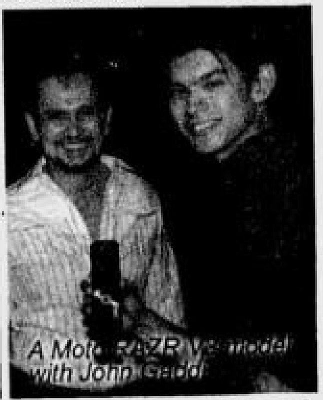
Symon Soler and Pia Campos

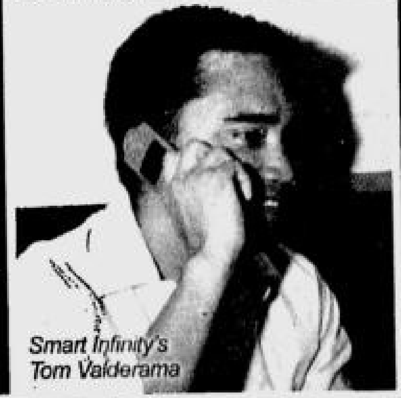
Mike [illegible], Pinky Marquez, Bimbo Cerrudo and Louie Cruz


Girlie Rodis and Pepper Teehankee one of the night's big winners

Motorola executives with RAZR V3 winners Margie Defensor and Chat Ramirez

Epi Quizon shows off the 'MUST' phone


A Moto RAZR V3 model with John Gaddi


Smart Infinity's Tom Valderama

Punongbayan & Araullo's Toni Herbosa and wife Lilibeth

Bennie Uyco, Pres. Uyco Realty & Insurance w/ Motorola's Country Manager Arlene Amarante

MOTOROLA